



Heat Wave Alert: Andhra ULBs Mobilised as Coastal Temperatures Soar

Amaravati, May 19 | TPN Bureau

With heatwave conditions intensifying across Coastal Andhra Pradesh, the state government has placed all Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) on high alert, directing immediate activation of emergency measures to protect public health over the coming week.

ULBs have been directed to launch widespread public awareness campaigns through public announcement systems, social media, ward secretariats, municipal vehicles, local cable networks, and digital display boards. These campaigns aim to circulate heatwave advisories and precautionary guidelines at the ward level.

Principal Secretary of the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department, S. Suresh Kumar, issued instructions to Municipal Commissioners, especially in Central and North Coastal districts, to strengthen preparedness between May 20 and May 26. This follows forecasts of extreme "feels-like" temperatures and prolonged hot weather.

To combat dehydration and heat-related illnesses, officials are setting up drinking water facilities at key public locations such as bus stands, markets, hospitals, schools, labour hubs, and Anna Canteens. Temporary water kiosks, chhalvendrams (free water centres), tanker supplies, and cooling shelters are being prioritised, particularly in high-



Transparent Village Survey to Drive Holistic Rural Transformation: Dy CM Pawan Kalyan

Amaravati, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Deputy Chief Minister and Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Pawan Kalyan has called for a comprehensive and transparent field-level survey to accelerate inclusive and sustainable rural development across Andhra Pradesh.

Chairing a high-level review meeting with senior officials, the Minister directed that detailed data be collected on existing infrastructure and unmet needs in every village. He stressed the importance of documenting Panchayat lands, poramboke lands, grazing fields, and burial grounds to safeguard public assets while exploring avenues to generate local revenue and ensure village self-sufficiency.

Reviewing progress under the flagship 'Palle Panduga 1' and 'Palle Panduga 2' programmes, Pawan Kalyan highlighted that several

years of the coalition government in power, several such positions remain vacant, leading to dissatisfaction among party leaders and cadre. The matter has now reached senior leadership, including party chief N. Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh, prompting efforts to expedite appointments.

Controversy Erupts Over Corporation Post Amid Allegations of Favouritism

Ravi Podili

Amaravati: A fresh political controversy has emerged in Andhra Pradesh, with allegations of favouritism and irregularities surrounding the proposed appointment of a chairperson for the Sishta Karanalu Corporation.

The issue has drawn attention within the ruling Telugu Desam Party (TDP), where internal discussions on filling long-pending nominated posts have intensified. Despite two

years of the coalition government in power, several such positions remain vacant, leading to dissatisfaction among party leaders and cadre. The matter has now reached senior leadership, including party chief N. Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh, prompting efforts to expedite appointments.

Amid this process, the selection of a chairperson for the Sishta Karanalu Corporation has become

Knowledge Must Be Rooted in Ethics and Wisdom: Dr. P.K. Mishra at Nalanda University Convocation

Rajgir, Bihar, May 19 | TPN Bureau

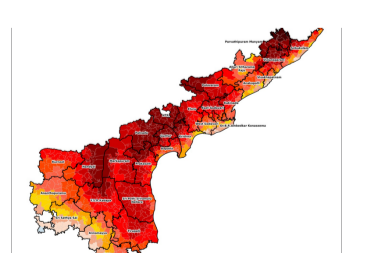
Dr. P. K. Mishra addressed the third convocation of Nalanda University on Tuesday, urging graduates to align knowledge with ethics, compassion, and human responsibility in an era of rapid technological advancement. Congratulating 221 graduates from 14 countries, Dr. Mishra described Nalanda as not just

an institution but a "civilisational symbol," rooted in a legacy of open dialogue and interdisciplinary learning. He highlighted the university's Net Zero campus, inaugurated by Narendra Modi, and recalled the spiritual significance of nearby Bodhi Gaya. Addressing contemporary challenges, Dr. Mishra noted the paradox of the 21st century—marked by

Severe Heatwave Intensifies Across State

Amaravati, May 19 | TPN Bureau

The Andhra Pradesh State Disaster Management Authority has issued a heatwave alert as temperatures continue to rise sharply across coastal districts. Managing Director Prakhari Jain warned that heat intensity is likely to peak on Wednesday, with temperatures expected to touch 45°C to 47°C in several districts.



On Tuesday, the highest temperatures recorded included 45.6°C in Piduguralla (Palnadu), 44.9°C in Gudur (Nellore), and 44.5°C in Kankipadu (Krishna). Over 233 mandals

across 23 districts reported temperatures exceeding 41°C, indicating widespread heat stress conditions. Severe heatwave conditions are likely in 71 mandals, particularly in districts such as Srikakulam, Anakapalli, Kakinada, and Konaseema,

Fishermen Welfare Push Naidu Announces 262 Crore Aid Intensified Coastal Surveillance

Nellore/Kavali, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday announced a series of welfare and development measures for the fishing community, asserting that fishermen would have a participatory role in coastal development and that their rights would be protected at all costs.

Participating in the 'Matsyakarula Sevalo' (Service to Fishermen) programme at Thummalapenta village in Kavali constituency of Nellore district, the Chief Minister distributed financial assistance of 261.50 crore to 1,30,796 fishermen families during the annual fishing ban period. An amount of 20,000 was credited directly into each beneficiary's bank account.

Addressing the gathering, Naidu stressed that the coastline, resources, and livelihoods belong to local fishermen and warned against intrusion by boats from neighbouring states. He announced that coastal surveillance would be intensified and strict measures would be taken to safeguard fishermen's rights.

Highlighting development initiatives, the Chief Minister said ports along the coastline would boost growth and that fishermen would be integrated into this progress. He referred to the proposed Sagar Defence facility in the Kavali region, which is expected to generate local employment, and the construction of the Juvvaladinne Fishing Harbour at a cost of



Naidu Shares Meal with Fisherfolk Family

Kavali, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday shared a meal with a fisherman's family at Thummalapenta village in Kavali mandal of Sri Potti Sriramulu Nellore district, highlighting his connection with the community.

After attending the 'Matsyakarula Sevalo' programme, the Chief Minister visited the local fish market, interacted with fishermen and vendors, and purchased fish from women sellers. Fisherman Tanangari Babu welcomed him and explained how the 20,000 assistance under the scheme had supported their family.

Accepting Babu's invitation, Naidu visited his home, where Babu's wife Venkamma prepared the fish. The Chief Minister observed the cooking and even stirred the pot briefly. He also enquired about the health of Babu's daughter and her newborn.

Later, Naidu sat on the floor with the family and shared the meal, serving fish curry to them. The family expressed gratitude for the Chief Minister's visit.

288 crore, aimed at strengthening the fishing economy.

Naidu also announced the sanction of 200 mechanised boats with 60% subsidy, along with loans for the remaining cost. The government is providing a diesel subsidy of 9 per litre and has extended 50 crore towards diesel subsidy in 2026-

27. He added that nine fishing harbours and eight fish landing centres are being developed at a cost of 3,256 crore.

Emphasising technology-driven support, the Chief Minister said 4,550 transponders had been installed to enhance safety at sea. Fishermen are also being provided informa-

tion on fish availability zones to improve catch efficiency. Aquaculture is being supported with a power supply at 1.50 per unit.

The Chief Minister announced new livelihood opportunities for fishermen through seaweed cultivation in collaboration with the Central Salt and Marine Chemicals Research Institute (CSMCRI). Training programmes and infrastructure support will be provided to enable women and DWCR groups to earn additional income. He reiterated that rights over fish farming in reservoirs and tanks would remain exclusively with fishermen and said fish seed supply would be ensured across water bodies. Criticising the previous YSRCP government, Naidu alleged that the fisheries sector suffered setbacks between 2019 and 2024 and accused the opposition of spreading misinformation. He said the present government had restored welfare and was pursuing development across Visakhapatnam, Amaravati, and Tirupati.

During the visit, the Chief Minister inspected departmental stalls, the Seaweed and Coastal Surveillance Centre, and the Joint Action Task Force for Sea Patrolling. He directed officials to utilise satellite imagery and drone technology to prevent intrusion by boats from other states.

Ministers Anam Ramanarayana Reddy, Atchannaaidu, and Farooq, MP Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, MLA Kavaya Krishna Reddy, and senior officials were present

New Delhi, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Tuesday chaired a high-level review meeting to assess preparations for the upcoming NEET (UG) re-examination, directing officials to ensure a transparent and foolproof process.

Emphasising integrity, the Minister instructed that all shortcomings identified in the previous examination be thoroughly addressed. He called for the re-exam to be conducted in a secure, seamless manner under strict security protocols.

Pradhan also directed authorities to hold coordination meetings with District Magistrates and Superintendents of Police across states to strengthen monitoring and ensure smooth implementation of arrangements. Highlighting the importance of vigilance, he



stressed that security at examination centres must remain uncompromised. At the same time, officials were asked to ensure adequate facilities for students, including transportation, drinking water, and other essential amenities.

The Ministry aims to restore confidence among candidates through enhanced preparedness and strict oversight.

BUZZ POINTS



Former Uttarakhand Chief Minister BC Khanduri Passes Away At 91

PAGE 07



Court Issues Notice To AAP Leaders In Contempt Case Linked To Judge Remarks

PAGE 07



Differently Abled Scholars Seek Opposition Intervention Over Alleged Recruitment Reservation Lapses

PAGE 03



Widespread Oppression And Atrocities Against Marginalized Communities Exposed From Previous Tenure

PAGE 03

Hundred Boats on Krishna Fishermen Thank CM, Lokesh Extends Warm Welcome

Amaravati, May 19 | TPN Bureau

In a rare and visually striking gesture of gratitude, nearly 100 boats carrying fishermen sailed along the Krishna River to the residence of Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, thanking the government for releasing financial assistance under the 'Matsyakarula Sevalo' (Service to Fishermen) scheme for the second consecutive year.

Fishermen from Venkatapalem, Thummalapalem, Sitanagaram, and Kummrapalem formed a flotilla on the Krishna, creating an impressive spectacle as they approached the Chief Minister's residence. The initiative coincided with the disbursal of funds under the welfare programme, re-



flecting the community's appreciation for continued government support.

Minister for HRD and IT

Nara Lokesh, who noticed the fleet from the residence, greeted the fishermen with a wave and invited them inside. In a

warm and unexpected gesture, he welcomed the entire group into his home, interacted with them, and appreciated their unity and sense of gratitude.

Commending the fishing community, Lokesh described them as "Children of the Ganges" and close friends of the government. Recalling his experience during the Yuvalagam Padayatra, he spoke about the discipline and solidarity of the fishermen, noting how entire villages had come together to welcome him with traditional decorations and unwavering commitment.

Highlighting the government's development agenda, Lokesh said efforts are being made to create better employment opportunities for the children of fishermen by at-

India-Italy Ties Enter New Phase with Strategic Indo-Mediterranean Vision: PM Narendra Modi and PM Giorgia Meloni

New Delhi/Rome, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Giorgia Meloni (President of the Council of Ministers of the Italian Republic) have jointly underscored a transformative phase in India-Italy relations, elevating bilateral ties into a "special strategic partnership" anchored in shared democratic values and a forward-looking global vision.

In a joint articulation, the leaders highlighted that the partnership has gained unprecedented momentum in recent years, driven by high-level political engagement and expanding cooperation across sectors. They emphasised that in a rapidly evolving global order, India and Italy aim to combine economic dynamism,



technological innovation, and deep civilisational heritage to shape future global growth.

A key focus of the partnership is economic collaboration, with both nations targeting over 20 billion in bilateral trade by 2029. Sectors such as defence, aerospace, clean en-



ergy, manufacturing, pharmaceuticals, textiles, and tourism have been identified as priority areas. The proposed India-European Union Free Trade Agreement is expected to further accelerate trade and investment flows. Highlighting industrial synergy,

Heat Wave Alert: Andhra ULBs Mobilised as Coastal Temperatures Soar

continued

risk and water-scarce areas. Special focus is being given to vulnerable groups, including sanitation workers, daily wage labourers, street vendors, the elderly, and the homeless. Ward-level monitoring teams, in coordination with the Health Department, are ensuring timely support and intervention. Authorities have also been instructed to regulate outdoor work during peak heat

hours while maintaining sanitation services and safe drinking water supply. Continuous monitoring of water quality has been mandated, and control rooms will function round the clock to address emergencies and grievances. Emphasising urgency, Suresh Kumar called for strict field-level implementation and daily monitoring, with senior officials overseeing compliance to ensure citizen safety during peak summer.

Transparent Village Survey to Drive Holistic Rural Transformation: Dy CM Pawan Kalyan

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targets have been surpassed. Over 4,000 km of roads were completed in Phase I, while Phase II exceeded expectations with 3,580 km. The construction of Gokulams (cattle sheds), farm ponds, and water troughs also recorded higher-than-target achievements, significantly strengthening rural infrastructure and livelihoods.

Focusing on sanitation, the Minister emphasised the expansion of the innovative "Magic Drains" system to more villages, including remote tribal areas. He noted that these drainage systems must be scientifically designed, especially in regions with black cotton soil and water-retentive delta areas, to ensure long-term effectiveness.

He also issued strict instructions to maintain high quality standards in road construction, warning that negligence

would not be tolerated. Proper finishing, including sloping of road edges, was stressed to prevent water stagnation and accidents.

Highlighting the role of technology, Pawan Kalyan said geotagging and satellite-based monitoring systems are being deployed to track infrastructure works and eliminate duplication. He further directed that Employment Guarantee funds be utilised strictly within prescribed guidelines to avoid financial discrepancies and ensure transparency.

The Minister called for a comprehensive action plan aligned with the vision of "Swarnandhra" and the objectives of rural employment and livelihood missions.

Senior officials, including Principal Secretary Kanthilal Dande and Commissioner Krishna Teja, were present at the meeting.

Knowledge Must Be Rooted in Ethics and Wisdom: Dr. P.K. Mishra at Nalanda University Convocation

continued

breakthroughs in artificial intelligence, biotechnology, and quantum computing, yet facing climate change, geopolitical tensions, and social divisions. He stressed that technology alone cannot replace ethical reasoning or human judgment. Calling for intellectual decolonisation, he advocated reviving indigenous knowledge systems and strengthening India's global academic contributions. He

also highlighted initiatives such as the National Education Policy, Bhashini, and the IndiaAI Mission aimed at democratising knowledge and ensuring technological sovereignty. Encouraging students to "work without walls," Dr. Mishra urged them to draw from global knowledge while contributing meaningfully to society. Bihar Governor Syed Ata Hasnain, Vice-Chancellor Sachin Chaturvedi, and other dignitaries attended the event.

Severe Heatwave Intensifies Across State

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while another 277 mandals may face heatwave conditions. Slight relief is expected in Rayalaseema with chances of light rain and thunderstorms due to a surface trough.

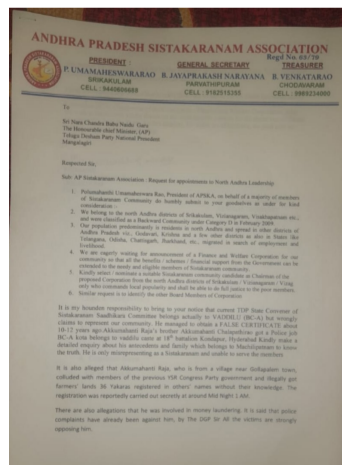
Authorities have advised people, especially the elderly and those with health conditions, to avoid going outdoors between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., stay hydrated, and take necessary precautions against extreme heat exposure.

Controversy Erupts Over Corporation Post Amid Allegations of Favouritism

continued

contentious. Minister Kollu Ravindra, who oversees Backward Class (BC) wings in the party, was entrusted with recommending a suitable candidate. He reportedly proposed Akkamahenti Raja, a close associate from Machilipatnam.

However, the recommendation has sparked objections from members of the Sishta Karanalu community, who allege that the nominee does not belong to their caste, which falls under the BC-D category. According to reports, Raja, also known as Nageswara Rao, belongs to the Vaddelu community. Community representatives have formally raised complaints at the party's grievance cell, demanding that the post be given to a genuine member of their community. The controversy has deepened with allegations regarding Raja's background. Complaints have reportedly been filed against him over land-related disputes, with some cases said to be pending in court. Additionally, accusations of involvement in irregular activities during the previous YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) government have also surfaced. Leaders of the Sishta Karanalu commu-



nity, largely concentrated in North Andhra districts such as Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, and Visakhapatnam, argue that representation should reflect their regional presence. They maintain that their population in other regions, including the Krishna district, is minimal. As the controversy gains traction, questions are being raised within political circles over the rationale behind the recommendation. The final decision now rests with the party's high command, as pressure mounts to ensure fairness and transparency in the appointment process.

Regional Development Authority To Hold Regular Meetings For Capital City Infrastructure Progress

Thullur, May 19 | TPN Bureau

The Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) has announced a fresh initiative to conduct routine community meetings to streamline land procurement and resolve public grievances for the capital city project. A public assembly was organized at Thullur under the management of the development authority as part of ongoing land acquisition activities for the construction of the people's capital city, Amaravati. APCRDA Commissioner V. Vijay Rama Raju, IAS, along with Additional Commissioner A. Bhargava Teja, IAS, directly participated in the interaction to engage with local landowners and farmers. During the session, the Commissioner explained to the local residents that Land Pooling Scheme (LPS) frameworks were systematically utilized to



acquire land intended for the expansion of road networks, sector zones, and general infrastructure layouts across the capital. He clarified that because several farmers and landowners had not stepped forward to join the voluntary pooling program despite multiple rounds of prior discussions, official land acquisition notices were recently published in complete accordance with the legally prescribed guidelines. However, the top administration emphasized

that an operational window remains fully open for these individuals. Landowners whose properties have been formally listed in the recent acquisition notifications still retain the opportunity to voluntarily enroll their lands into the Land Pooling Scheme, provided they do so within the specified deadline. Furthermore, the Commissioner announced that interactive public assemblies will become a regular feature to maintain consistent communication with the citizens of

the capital region. To ensure accountability, he stated that administrative officials will be strictly required to compile comprehensive Action Taken Reports regarding all local grievances highlighted during previous meetings. The authority also shared that specialized software is currently being designed to distribute Transferable Development Rights (TDR) bonds with complete transparency, leveraging secure biometric-linked OTP verification for authentication. As part of localized layout implementation, engineering and planning divisions were instructed to craft optimized circulation patterns to guarantee fluid traffic flow and connectivity between the central zones and the surrounding rural residential pockets.

The assembly also served as a direct forum for residents to voice pressing municipal issues, including unstable elec-

trical grids, clogged drainage lines, and delayed roadway developments. The Commissioner ordered the concerned department heads to initiate immediate remedial operations on these localized civic issues. Addressing a specific public demand regarding the completion of the major connecting roadway between Thullur and Tadikonda, the Commissioner explained that the asset falls under the jurisdiction of the Roads and Buildings Department and confirmed that proactive fiscal planning talks have already concluded with the Guntur Collector to secure the necessary project funding. As core structural layouts across the development project accelerate rapidly, the authority appealed for sustained public coordination and urged plot beneficiaries to finalize their official property registrations at the nearby competent offices.

Widespread Condemnation Renewed For Victim Of High-Profile Brutality

Visakhapatnam, May 19 | TPN Bureau

The State Telugu Desam Party President and Gajuwaka Member of the Legislative Assembly, Palla Srinivasa Rao, paid rich tributes to Veedhi Subramanyam, the young man from a marginalized community who was brutally murdered during the previous political regime. The memorial event was organized under the auspices of the Gajuwaka Constituency Scheduled Caste Cell at the local party office. Srinivasa Rao offered floral tributes and expressed deep solidarity with the grieving family members, noting that the horrifying nature of the crime continues to shock the public conscience even after years

have passed.

Speaking on the occasion, the party president strongly demanded that the primary accused in the case, former legislator Ananth Babu, face stringent legal punishment for orchestrating the horrific crime and subsequently dropping off the victim's body at his family's doorstep. He criticized the previous YSR Congress Party administration, stating that it was a historic betrayal of the vulnerable sections who had voted them into power. He remarked that the former government actively empowered criminal elements while systematically failing to protect the lives and dignity of the downtrodden. The legislator emphasized that the

citizens of the state have delivered a resounding verdict against the previous administration's complete disregard for constitutional values and the rule of law. He asserted that public outrage over such unchecked atrocities and the shielding of influential perpetrators ultimately led to the ruling party's crushing defeat in the elections, reducing them to just eleven legislative seats. He concluded by reaffirming the current administration's absolute commitment to fast-tracking the legal process, ensuring that the perpetrators are held accountable under the law, and providing comprehensive support to the victim's family in their pursuit of justice.

Decadelong Standoff Resolved As Assets Transfers Approved For Regional Religious Board

Amaravati, May 19 | TPN Bureau

A major breakthrough has been achieved in resolving a decadelong pending dispute regarding the transfer of essential records, assets, and documentation to the Andhra Pradesh Waqf Board from the neighboring state of Telangana. Following the state reorganization, crucial files, survey registers, district gazettes, and board resolutions belonging to the Andhra Pradesh division had remained under the administrative custody of the Telangana Waqf Board. Although structural guidelines framed under the Central Waqf Act of 1995 explicitly mandated the dynamic repatriation of these administrative documents alongside corresponding funds, the transition process faced systematic stagnation for several years. The breakthrough accelerated after the newly appointed Andhra Pradesh Waqf Board Chairman, Sheikh Abdul Aziz, prioritized the issue by initiating high-level direct consultations. Aziz personally met with his counterpart in the neighboring state and convened multiple strategic sessions with the chief executive officer and other administrative dignitaries to push the formal correspondence forward. Chief Minister N Nara Chandrababu Naidu and Minority Welfare Minister N M D Farook subsequently intervened at the ministerial level to provide crucial diplomatic leverage, which effectively expedited the bureaucratic clearances required to resolve the deadlock. As a direct consequence of

these persistent administrative negotiations, the Telangana government issued an official memorandum directing the Hyderabad Collector to release the designated records room to the Chief Executive Officer of the Telangana State Waqf Board for formal handover. The inventory scheduled for repatriation comprises 2,971 specialized files, eight detailed survey commissioner report volumes, and three institutional gazettes. The Andhra Pradesh board has already deployed dedicated teams of officials to expedite the preliminary verification, compilation of inventory data, and physical collection of these historical documents. Beyond the recovery of paperwork, the state board is actively pursuing financial dues and bank deposits totaling 55.5 crore rupees that have been withheld since the bifurcation. Aziz highlighted that these returned resources are vitally necessary for protecting public properties, handling complex ongoing litigation, validating spatial surveys, and uploading compliance data to the central government's digital portal. Emphasizing that every piece of property and single rupee belongs to the public, the board leadership affirmed that administrative struggles would continue without compromise to preserve religious assets for future generations. The chairman concluded by expressing deep gratitude to the leadership of both states, the Central Waqf Council, and the participating bureaucrats for their systemic cooperation in finalizing the transfer.

State Of The Art Coastal Police Headquarters Unveiled To Strengthen Maritime Vigilance

Amaravati, May 19 | TPN Bureau

In a major development aimed at reinforcing the maritime defense and surveillance architecture of the state, a newly constructed Coastal Security Police building was officially inaugurated by the Director General of Police, Harish Kumar Gupta, IPS. This modern facility has been strategically designed to function as a core operational nerve center, focusing on comprehensive coastal monitoring, strategic intelligence compilation, and high-speed response interventions along the extensive maritime borders of the region. The grand inaugural event saw the active participation of the Inspector General of Police for Coastal Security, Gopinath Jatti, IPS, alongside several other high-ranking police dignitaries dedicated to regional maritime defense.

Following the formal ribbon-cutting ceremony, Director General Harish Kumar Gupta conducted an exhaustive administrative review regarding

the operational parameters and preventive enforcement strategies implemented by the coastal wing. The assessment covered a wide spectrum of field operations, including specialized surveillance measures implemented across local beaches, the technical logistics of beach patrolling, active lifesaving deployments, and the broader impact of community outreach initiatives. The top officer evaluated the functioning and structural performance of localized village vigilance committees, analyzing their collective impact on maintaining law and order along the shorelines. Additionally, the review scrutinized the tactical capabilities of the special intelligence unit operating within the coastal wing, alongside an assessment of the current inventory of specialized transport vehicles and tactical equipment, emphasizing areas requiring immediate modernization and enhancement.

The session also highlighted institutional human resource development, with the Director General reviewing the progres-

sion of specialized training initiatives conducted for the force, as well as the strategic induction of three platoons from the State Extra Police force to augment existing personnel. Environmental and social awareness campaigns managed by the department were highly praised, particularly those focusing on marine conservation, such as the protection of Olive Ridley turtles, alongside robust public awareness campaigns targeting narcotics eradication. The state police chief lauded the persistent efforts of the maritime teams in maintaining strategic dominance through night camps, ceremonial flag hoistings on detached islands, and coordinated training programs with naval youth groups. Concluding the inspection, the Director General expressed deep appreciation for the proactive steps taken by the coastal administration and formally assured the prompt allocation of advanced infrastructure and logistical resources to ensure the state's coastlines remain thoroughly secured against potential vulnerabilities.

Iconic Working Class Leader Memorialized On Death Anniversary Across Regions

Vijayawada, May 19 | TPN Bureau

The forty-first death anniversary of the legendary communist leader Puchalapalli Sundarayya was observed with solemn reverence at the state headquarters of the Communist Party of India (Marxist). Senior state secretary member Y. Venkateswara Rao, who unveiled and garlanded Sundarayya's portrait during a commemorative meeting presided over by committee member J. Jayaram, described the late stalwart as the ultimate embodiment of people-centric politics. Venkateswara Rao highlighted how Sundarayya dedicated his youth to analyzing grassroots grievances, fighting against deep-rooted caste discrimination, and voluntarily donating his entire personal wealth for the upliftment of the impoverished. Recognized as the foundational architect of the communist movement in South India and a core commander of the historic Telangana Armed Struggle, Sundarayya famously

maintained absolute humility by commuting to Parliament on a bicycle and organizing progressive community dining initiatives to foster secular social values.

Furthering the discussion on political legacy, state secretary member V. Umamaheswara Rao praised Sundarayya as a timeless institutional benchmark for theoretical practice and public service whose historical insights accurately mirror modern socio-economic challenges. He noted that while several contemporary political entities are succumbing to central ruling dynamics, the communist parties continue to offer resilient ideological resistance fueled by Sundarayya's enduring inspiration. Echoing these sentiments, fellow secretary member K. Subbaravamma emphasized his unforgettable structural role in researching and organizing systemic labor struggles for the working class across the nation, an event that drew massive attendance from various affiliated youth, trade,

India-Italy Ties Enter New Phase with Strategic Indo-Mediterranean Vision: PM Narendra Modi and PM Giorgia Meloni

the leaders pointed to the convergence of Italy's design excellence and manufacturing strength with India's scale, engineering talent, and thriving startup ecosystem. With over 1,000 companies operating across both countries, supply chain integration is steadily deepening.

Technology and innovation form the core of this partnership. Cooperation in Artificial Intelligence, quantum computing, digital infrastructure, and critical minerals is being strengthened, supported by academic and research collaborations. Both leaders stressed a shared commitment to human-

centric and ethical AI development, aligning India's "MANAV" vision with Italy's "algor-ethics" approach.

The partnership also extends to space, defence, and maritime security, with both nations seeking to enhance cooperation in safeguarding critical sea routes and tackling global threats such as terrorism and cybercrime.

Energy collaboration is another pillar, with joint efforts in renewable energy, green hydrogen, and sustainable infrastructure. India's leadership in initiatives like the International Solar Alliance complements Italy's role as a key European

energy hub.

Importantly, both leaders introduced the concept of the "Indo-Mediterranean" as an emerging strategic and economic corridor linking the Indian Ocean and Europe. In this context, the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) is seen as a transformative initiative to boost connectivity, trade, and resilience.

Emphasising shared cultural values, the leaders noted that India's "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam" and Italy's humanist traditions together reinforce a people-centric global partnership aimed at inclusive and sustainable progress.



Opposition Flays Ruling Coalition Over Fuel Hikes And Policy Reversals

Rajahmundry, May 19 | TPN Bureau

The YSRCP has launched a sharp attack against the ruling alliance for implementing further hikes in diesel prices, demonstrating a complete disregard for the widespread public agitations held across Andhra Pradesh demanding an immediate rollback. Speaking to reporters on Tuesday, former Member of Parliament Margani Bharath expressed deep indignation over the administration's financial directives. He emphasized that even though massive public demonstrations had rocked the state to protest escalating fuel costs, the coalition government still had the audacity to add an extra 90 paise to the price of diesel. This latest upward revision, the opposition leader cautioned, is bound to trigger a severe cascading inflationary effect on essential goods, thereby placing an immense financial burden on all segments of society, most notably lower-income demographics.

The opposition leadership brought up past political assurances, highlighting that Nara Lokesh had categorically promised the public during his statewide foot march that fuel tariffs would remain unchanged under their governance. During that campaign, Lokesh had frequently clicked selfies and circulated comparative pricing charts of petroleum products while offering explicit assurances that Value Added Tax (VAT) on fuel would be entirely dismantled. Contrary to those public pledges, the prevailing petrol and diesel rates in Andhra Pradesh have climbed exponentially, transforming the region into one of the most expensive states for automotive fuel nationwide.

The main opposition party also took strong exception to Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu's recent public an-

nouncements encouraging citizens to expand their families by having a third and fourth child, backed by state financial incentives. Labeling this demographic strategy as utterly absurd, Bharath pointed out that such regressive measures would drastically lower the standard of living for economically vulnerable households. He questioned how poor parents could realistically afford the upbringing and welfare of larger families when the ruling alliance is simultaneously enforcing anti-people policies that maximize day-to-day economic strain on ordinary citizens. Furthermore, Bharath raised serious equity concerns regarding the state education system, questioning why underprivileged children are being cut off from opportunities when top leaders like Naidu and Lokesh, who raise single children, opt for English-medium instruction. He stated that the previous administration led by YS Jagan Mohan Reddy had successfully rolled out landmark educational reforms, which featured the universal introduction of English as a medium of instruction in government-run institutions alongside the distribution of digital learning tablets. The current coalition, however, has allegedly dismantled these progressive structures, forcing students to bear the structural brunt. Concluding his address, Bharath criticized the ruling trio of Chandrababu Naidu, Pawan Kalyan, and Nara Lokesh for visible double standards in preaching austerity while frequently utilizing expensive chartered flights. He also condemned a vernacular daily for allegedly manipulating data to downplay the Backward Classes (BC) census percentage and accused the TDP high command of stoking social divisions through derogatory remarks.

Driver Subramanyam Murder Epitomizes Cruelty of Previous Regime

Machilipatnam, May 19 | TPN Bureau

A prominent leader holding portfolios in mines, geology, and excise, Kollu Ravindra, launched a scathing attack on the previous five-year tenure of YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, characterizing it as an era defined by chaos, atrocities, assaults, and political murders. He stated that the brutal killing of driver Veedhi Subramanyam and the subsequent delivery of his corpse to his doorstep stood as a horrifying testament to the previous regime's absolute lawlessness. Participating in a public protest organized to mark the fourth anniversary of the murder, which was observed under the banner of the five-year misrule being a living hell for marginalized communities, the leader criticized the systemic oppression faced by weaker sections.

Speaking to media personnel, the leader asserted that the previous administration had vindictively targeted all segments of society, and the public vividly remembers the atrocities committed against down-trodden communities. He noted that the act of a then-ruling party legislator murdering his own driver and dropping the body at the victim's family home exposed the ultimate depravity of the political leadership at the time. He further alleged that extensive efforts were made by the state machinery to manipulate the case, intimidate vital witnesses, and shield the culprits from legal accountability. For two consecutive years, no meaningful ju-



dicial action was taken, and the accused were instead shamelessly celebrated with public rallies by party leaders.

The leader recounted a series of violent historical inci-

dents from the past five years to highlight a pattern of state-sponsored tyranny against weaker sections. He recalled how Dr. Sudhakar was branded as mentally unstable, tortured, and ultimately driven to death

merely for requesting a basic medical mask during a health crisis. He also cited the killing of Om Pratap for questioning liquor irregularities, the public tansuring of Vara Prasad inside a police station for op-

posing illegal sand mining, the daylight murder of Thota Chandraiah, the brutal slaying of NandamSubbaiah, and the horrific burning alive of a young boy named Amarnath Goud in Palnadu.

Internal Rift Widens In Regional Party Over Cash For Posts Allegations

Ongole, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Another intense internal factional feud has come to light within the Jana Sena Party district unit. Jada Bala Nagendra, who serves as the party's district campaign committee coordinator, has leveled sensational allegations against former minister Balineni Srinivasa Reddy and his son, Praneeth Reddy. Despite having been a close associate of the former minister until very re-

cently, Bala Nagendra has now raised a banner of revolt against his former political mentor. Speaking at a press conference held at the MCA building, he launched a scathing attack on Balineni Srinivasa Reddy and Praneeth, accusing them of running a commercial racket within the party organization. The campaign coordinator directly accused Praneeth Reddy and his core team of putting up key party positions for sale across

the combined Prakasham, Nellore, and Greater Rayalaseema districts. He alleged that a financial transaction of 25 lakh rupees was demanded for the Prakasham district president post, while the Nellore district president position was openly bargained for 50 lakh rupees. Bala Nagendra shared that he was initially a strong contender for the district president post and was assured support by Balineni. However, because he lacked the requested finan-

cial resources, Balineni subsequently bypassed him and recommended giving the position to a candidate from the western region instead. Furthermore, Bala Nagendra revealed controversial details regarding local political dynamics that have sparked an intense debate in political circles. He stated that ever since Balineni joined the Jana Sena Party, he had been consistently targeting local MLA DamacharlaJanardhana Rao and had even orches-

trated the writing of critical letters against him. Highlighting these disruptive activities, the district campaign coordinator announced that he would bring all these ongoing political developments to the immediate attention of party chief Pawan Kalyan. He demanded that the party high command take strict disciplinary action against both Balineni and his son, Praneeth Reddy, to preserve the integrity of the organization.

Differently Abled Scholars Seek Opposition Intervention Over Alleged Recruitment Reservation Lapses

Tadepalli, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Delegates representing differently abled scholars convened a high-profile meeting with the former Chief Minister and YSRCP President, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, at the party's central organizational headquarters. The delegation sought immediate political intervention regarding the noticeable absence of statutory reservations for persons with disabilities in the faculty recruitment notifications issued by the current state administration. Presenting their grievances, All University Divyang Wings President M. Koteswara Rao and Executive Member M. Srinivasa Rao detailed that the government had recently released official employment advertisements to fill 1,523 academic positions, including Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, and Lecturers, across nineteen higher education institutions throughout the state. They expressed profound concern that despite the extensive scope of this hiring drive, no specialized quotas were allocated for differently abled candidates, effectively locking out highly qualified scholars, including doctoral degree holders, from securing respectable public employment.

The organizational representatives asserted that the



current administration led by Chandrababu Naidu is failing to properly enforce the landmark Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act of 2016, which was enacted by the Central Government to firmly guarantee social equality, economic empowerment, and robust legal protection for individuals with special needs. They argued that this systemic omission is actively depriving physically challenged individuals of essential livelihood opportunities and professional growth, further noting that even within short-term contract positions and outsourced departmental appointments, adequate representations are being routinely denied. The delegation emphasized that the lack of institutional adherence to federal welfare laws undermines the social safety net intended to uplift vulnerable sections of

the academic workforce.

The opposition leader listened to the detailed presentation of the scholars and formally assured them that the party would launch systematic efforts to secure legal and administrative justice for all affected candidates. Reflecting upon the various comprehensive welfare frameworks, enhanced pensions, and dedicated empowerment initiatives rolled out for the disabled community during the previous YSRCP tenure, the party president reaffirmed an absolute commitment to public advocacy. He assured the visiting delegation that his political organization would continue to champion the rights of the differently abled community and actively challenge any administrative policy that threatens to marginalize them in state-run educational institutions.

Visakhapatnam, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Government Whip and Member of the Legislative Assembly, Ganababu, launched a scathing attack on the previous five-year tenure of the YSR Congress Party, describing it as a dark chapter for marginalized communities. Speaking at a press conference at his office, he released an official booklet detailing systemic atrocities, assaults, and financial diversions that occurred under the former administration. He asserted that the vulnerable sections experienced unprecedented humiliation and torture during this period, citing specific high-profile cases like the tragic demise of Dr. Sudhakar and the brutal killing of driver Veedhi Subramanyam as living testimonies to the past regime's anti-dalit mindset.

Presenting institutional data, Ganababu pointed out that nationwide tracking reports placed the state at the top for crimes against vulnerable sections during the previous five years. He stated that over two hundred individuals from these communities were murdered, and tens of thousands of assault cases were documented. He contrasted this with the significantly lower numbers recorded during the preceding democratic term, highlighting a staggering ten-fold increase in violence under

Widespread Oppression And Atrocities Against Marginalized Communities Exposed From Previous Tenure



the YSRCP. The legislator also cited horrifying statistics regarding offenses against women from these communities, mentioning tragic victims from various regions and slamming the previous leadership for counter-registering cases against grieving families who sought justice.

The legislator further accused the former administration of systemic economic exploitation, alleging the forceful seizure of eleven thousand acres of assigned lands under the guise of land pooling and re-surveys. He listed instances where citizens were terminated or physically humiliated for

questioning liquor quality or opposing illegal sand mining operations. Ganababu maintained that even after being rejected by voters in the recent elections, the opposition's disruptive behavior continues, referencing a recent violent assault on a government official within a mandal office by an opposition legal wing leader. He also condemned the unconstitutional diversion of thirty-three thousand crore rupees from designated welfare sub-plans, which completely crippled public corporations and denied essential subsidies to the youth. In contrast, Ganababu emphasized that the cur-

rent ruling alliance is working progressively to restore the rights, dignity, and protection of all citizens. He announced that the administration has allocated twenty-two thousand crore rupees for welfare in the current budget and successfully revived eighteen crucial development schemes that were arbitrarily abolished by the previous government. He concluded by assuring that the current government is actively providing special subsidies and incentives to transform youth from these communities into independent industrialists and promised absolute justice for all past victims.



Minister Extends Financial Aid to Leukemia Patient

Battalalipalli, May 19 | TPN Bureau: A case of M. Tarun Kumar Reddy from Apparacheruvu village in Battalalipalli mandal, who has been suffering from Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML) for the past 12 years, was brought to the notice of Minister Satya Kumar Yadav. Family members met the Minister and explained their financial difficulties in continuing long-term treatment.

Responding promptly, the Minister took steps to ensure medical assistance. He wrote to the government seeking support, following which 2.5 lakh was sanctioned through a Letter of Credit under the Chief Minister's Relief Fund for treatment at Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences, Hyderabad. Officials said the sanction has brought major relief to the family. The Minister's office stated that he has consistently prioritised addressing public health issues and facilitating medical aid for the needy. Family members expressed gratitude to the Minister for his timely intervention and support during a difficult period.



Youth Urged to Prepare Strategically for Job Calendar 2026

Kurnool, May 19 | TPN Bureau: Kurnool Member of Parliament Bastipati Nagaraju called upon youth to prepare in a planned and disciplined manner for competitive examinations, making effective use of opportunities provided under the Job Calendar 2026. He was speaking at an awareness programme organised jointly by the District Youth Welfare Department, SETKUR and SVR Coaching Center on Tuesday. The MP said the job calendar, released during Ugadi, fulfilled a key promise made by Minister Nara Lokesh during the Yuvagalam Padayatra. He noted that timely notifications and recruitment by the coalition government would help youth secure employment without unnecessary delays. He urged aspirants to utilise the structured schedule and focus on systematic preparation.

On the occasion, Nagaraju released a comprehensive handbook containing details of job notifications for 2026, including syllabus, marks distribution and eligibility criteria. The handbook was distributed free of cost to students to assist their preparation. He said the government's initiative to fill vacancies in teaching, university faculty and police departments would open up significant employment avenues. He also conveyed that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had extended his support and encouragement to the youth. SETKUR CEO Dr. Venugopal advised students to avoid wasting time and follow a focused study plan to succeed in competitive exams. He added that more awareness programmes would be conducted under the guidance of the District Collector to provide expert inputs. Kuruva Corporation Direc-



Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu to inaugurate Sanjeevani Project at Yadamari Primary Health Center - District Collector Sumit Kumar

Chittoor District, Yadamari, May 18 | TPN Bureau: On the 23rd of this month, CM Chandrababu Naidu will inaugurate the Sanjeevani Project at Yadamari Primary Health Center in Puthalapattu constituency. Later, Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu will participate in a public meeting. On Monday, District Collector Sumit Kumar and local MLA Murali Mohan inspected the places on the advance arrangements related to the Chief Minister's visit. In this context, District Collector Sumit Kumar, JC AdarshRajendran, DSP Venkata Narayana, RDO Srinivasulu and other high-ranking officials along

with local MLA Murali Mohan inspected the arrangements related to the Chief Minister's visit at the field level. The officials closely inspected the helipad site to be set up at the Chinareddypalle bus stop, along with the primary health center in the mandal, and the open meeting premises. Speaking on the occasion, Collector Sumit Kumar directed that arrangements should be made for the CM's visit without any shortcomings and that all the officials should act in coordination and take necessary steps. Joint Collector A Rajendran, RDO Srinivasulu, Tahsildar Parthasarathy, MPDO Veerendra along with local leaders and others participated in the

Dharmavaram Mega Handloom Cluster Review Held

Sri Satya Sai District, May 19 | TPN Bureau :

District Collector Shyam Prasad conducted a high-level review meeting with officials on the proposed Dharmavaram Mega Handloom Cluster under the National Handloom Development Programme at the Collectorate. He directed officials to expedite field-level measures to ensure economic upliftment, skill development and global market access for handloom workers.

The cluster will be developed over 9.84 acres at a cost of 38.31 crore, benefiting over 22,500 workers and generating employment for more than 8,000 people. Dharmavaram silk sarees, which received GI recognition in 2010, are expected to gain stronger international presence through improved design, e-commerce integration



and eco-friendly branding. The project will be implemented in phases, including construction of work sheds, a design studio, dye house and marketing facilities. The Collector stressed adherence to

quality standards and timely completion. He also instructed that the Zero Liquid Discharge plant be set up as per Pollution Control Board norms. Officials and public representatives attended the meeting.

Kadapa, May 19, TPN Bureau:

Kadapa YSRCP MP YS Avinash Reddy has expressed his deep anger at the coalition government. He criticized the coalition government for dragging even God into politics. He said that the coalition government has been obstructing the Anjaneya Swamy Brahmotsavam programs in Bodapadu village of Brahmagari Matham mandal in Kadapa district for the past week and that the YSRCP leaders in the village have been being chased around the station for a week by obstructing the police. The coalition leaders should realize that if they interfere with God, they will be destroyed. They visited the temple on Tuesday and performed special pujas. Later, he spoke to the media and said that it is cruel that the police are finally stopping the cultural programs being organized. He said that people are suspicious that if they want to get married in the coming days, they should take permission



from the coalition leaders. He criticized the YSRCP leaders for obstructing the police and saying that the coalition government is so unfair. Avinash Reddy warned that dragging God into politics is painful and

that the coalition leaders will have to answer for everything in the future. Badvelu MLA Dr. Sudha, former Maidukuru MLA Raghurami Reddy and others participated in the program.

CM Chandrababu Naidu keeps his word even in difficult times - VemireddyPrabhakar Reddy

Nellore District, Tummalapenta, May 19, TPN Bureau: Speaking at a fisheries service program organized in Tummalapenta, Nellore Parliamentarian VemireddyPrabhakar Reddy said that the fishermen of this area consider it fortunate that the Chief Minister himself visited Tummalapenta village to launch the fisheries service scheme. He said that while the previous government gave only 10 thousand, our Chief Minister is standing by the fishermen by giving 20 thousand. The government is providing a total of Rs. 261.5 crores of financial assistance to 1,30,796 fishermen across the state. He said that it is gratifying to provide financial assistance of Rs. 23.2 crores to 11,644 fishermen in our Nellore district. MP VemireddyPrabhakar Reddy clarified that Chandrababu Naidu has the honor of keeping his word even in difficult times, even when the



economic situation is not good. He said that in addition to providing financial assistance to fishermen, the government will also stand by their families if any accident occurs while they go hunting. He said that financial assistance of five to six crores was provided to 66 people last year and 116 people so far this year. He said that the

government is giving top priority to public welfare. He said that due to the large-scale industries being set up in these nearby villages, jobs and employment opportunities will come to the doorsteps of fishermen, and he called on all fishermen to support the government without believing the myths told by passersby.

Prominent Real Estate Managing Director Honored For Affordable Housing Contributions

Vijayawada, May 19 | TPN Bureau

Brahma Rishi Homes has been consistently earning the trust of the general public by developing affordable housing units and standalone villas specifically tailored for middle-class families living in the surrounding regions. The real estate organization is placing a strategic focus on expanding its residential communities and gated development projects near the local airport zone, ensuring the delivery of high-quality living spaces at highly reasonable price points. These suburban properties are being systematically developed with modern infrastructure and premium public amenities, which include precise and clear roadway measurements, well-planned drainage systems, dedi-

cated children's play zones, public parks, community temples, and a serene, peaceful residential environment perfectly suited for modern families. The corporate leadership explicitly stated that its primary operational objective is to transform the dream of independent homeownership into a practical reality for middle-class households by continuously offering reliable housing solutions paired with contemporary facilities and a secure, interconnected community lifestyle. In recognition of these sustained efforts, the local administrative Collector organized a special ceremony to formally felicitate the Managing Director of Brahma Rishi Homes, Sahithi Yarlagadda, presenting her with a prestigious award for the organization's outstanding contributions toward providing acces-



sible and economical property options to the public. During the high-profile felicitation event, participating administrative officials highly appreciated the entire real estate organization for its unwavering commercial com-



YSRCP Slams Fuel Price Hike in Kadapa

Kadapa, May 19 | TPN Bureau:

YSR Congress Party Kamalapuram in-charge Naren Ramanujula Reddy condemned the rise in petrol and diesel prices in Andhra Pradesh, alleging that the coalition government had failed to fulfil its promises over the past two years. He staged a protest on Tuesday by symbolically pulling a tractor with a rope from the party office to the MRO office and submitted a petition. Addressing the media, he accused the government of increasing electricity, registration and gas charges while neglecting welfare measures.

He said no new pensions, ration cards or house titles had been issued. Ramanujula Reddy alleged that the government had not implemented its key promises except publicising the "Super Six" schemes. He criticised the administration's policies, claiming they were focused on privatisation, including plans concerning RTC. He demanded that Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Minister Nara Lokesh respond to the fuel price hike and take steps to control prices. He also questioned the government's commitment to its election assurances and challenged it to account for its performance.



Gold Traders Protest Across Kadapa District

Kadapa, May 19 | TPN Bureau:

Gold traders and jewellers across Kadapa district staged widespread protests on Tuesday, expressing deep concern over recent announcements by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which they alleged have adversely affected their business and livelihoods. Shops remained closed in several key towns as part of a bandh call, with traders and workers taking to the streets in protest. Proddatur, popularly known for its gold market and often considered a benchmark for gold pricing, witnessed a complete shutdown. The usually bustling market wore a desolate look as jewellers voluntarily closed their establishments. A large rally was taken out from the Gold Traders' Association building through Bangaragalla, with participants raising slogans and voicing their concerns. Leaders of various goldsmith associations stated that recent policy changes, including the increase in gold import

duty, have discouraged buyers and severely impacted sales. They pointed out that reduced demand has put immense pressure on traders, artisans and workers dependent on the sector. Petitions were submitted to local authorities seeking immediate government intervention to safeguard their interests. Similar protests were held in Jammalamadugu and Maidukuru, where association representatives warned that the situation could worsen if corrective measures are not taken. They said many artisans involved in making gold ornaments are already facing unemployment due to declining work opportunities. Traders and jewellers urged both the central and state governments to take steps to stabilise the sector, reduce the burden on businesses and protect traditional occupations. They expressed concern that continued neglect could push thousands of families dependent on the gold trade into financial distress.



Double engine government is moving forward rapidly

TDP Tirupati Parliament President Panupaka Lakshmi

Tirupati Press Club, May 19, TPN Bureau:

The Centre and the state are working together towards the development of SC and ST minorities in Andhra Pradesh, said Tirupati TDP Parliament President Panupaka Lakshmi. Speaking at a press conference at the local Press Club on Tuesday, TDP State Vice President and Yadav Corporation Chairman Narasimha Yadav said that Rs. 20,000 per family was distributed to one lakh families in Nellore by the Chief Minister today, and that the coalition government will provide many facilities to SC and ST minorities across the state. He also said that due respect to everyone in the party committees, SC, ST, BC with many positions and respect, he said that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar stopped funds for foreign education with the previous government, and also said that the state governments have weakened the coaching centers for higher education like IAS, IPS, etc. set up for SC, ST, BC with government assistance. He also said that Dr. Sudhakar was tortured and caused his death. He said that his leader Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu has decided to build 5 temples with the money received from Srivani tickets.

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Comprehensive Electoral Roll Revision Drive Announced to Streamline Voting Polling Stations

Eluru, May 19 | TPN Bureau

The District Collector, K. Vetrivel, has directed administrative machinery to ensure the absolute success of the upcoming special electoral roll summary revision program scheduled to commence across the region. Presiding over a high-level review meeting held with departmental officials at the Gauthami conference hall inside the collectorate on Tuesday, the Collector outlined a meticulous timeline for structural voter data updates. She announced that the highly critical door-to-door verification campaign will be executed from June 15 to July 14 to capture precise ground-level modifications. Following this preliminary collection, the official draft electoral roll is slated for public release on July 21, which will immediately open up a dedicated window for citizens to file formal claims, corrections, and objections from July 21 to August 20, leading to the final publication of the validated electoral roll on September 22.

The leadership emphasized that the extensive special summary revision process spanning from June through September remains exceptionally crucial for ensuring democratic transparency and absolute accuracy. To guarantee zero administrative friction during the field operations, Electoral Registration Officers (EROs), Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs), supervisors, and Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will undergo intensive technical training workshops, alongside the finalization of official stationery printing, between June 5 and June 10.

EROs have been further mandated to organize specialized orientation workshops for local booth agents from June 10 to June 13. Furthermore, the Collector directed administrative heads to actively consult with designated representatives of various political parties to identify polling locations where voter strength exceeds twelve hundred individuals, prompting the immediate drafting of strategic proposals to establish brand-new polling stations. In addition to the voter registry overhaul, the Collector issued strict directives to expedite and complete the comprehensive housing census as part of the broader national demographic mapping program. She ordered the immediate establishment of a centralized district-level electoral assistance help desk by May 25 to handle ongoing public queries and coordinate field activities. To ensure optimal human resource deployment before the massive field exercise begins, department heads were commanded to submit an exhaustive situational report regarding any vacant supervisor or Booth Level Officer positions within the district administration. The review assembly witnessed the active participation of several prominent administrative dignitaries, including In-charge District Revenue Officer L. Devaki Devi, In-charge Regional Development Officer I. Kishore, Zilla Parishad Chief Executive Officer P. Jagadamba, APIIC Zonal Manager K. Babji, alongside local revenue executives and tahsildars who committed to executing the directives within the set parameters.

CM Chandrababu Naidu dined with fishermen family members

Kavali, May 19, TPN Bureau:

Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu dined at the home of a fishermen family in Tummalapenta, Kavalimandal, Nellore district. He bought fish himself from the market, went to the house of a local fisherman and cooked the meal. He dined with them like a family member. Chief Minister Chandrababu visited the Kavali constituency of Sri Pottisriramulu Nellore district on Tuesday. After participating in the 'Fishermen's Service' program organized in Tummalapenta village of Kavalimandal, he visited the local fish market and spoke to the fishermen. He bought fish from the women traders there. The Chief Minister, who came to visit the market, was welcomed by fisherman Tanangari Babu and his son Giri. The fishermen and traders expressed happiness over the CM's visit to their market. The Chief Minister spoke to fisherman Tanangari Babu and inquired about their livelihood, fishing conditions and fish sales in the market. Babu explained to the CM that the financial assistance of Rs. 20,000 per year received through the 'Fishermen's Service' scheme is very useful for their families. The CM inquired about the types of fish available locally. After visiting the 'Fishermen's Home Chief Minister's Meal' market, the CM reached their house at the invitation of local fisherman Tanangari Babu. On this occasion, he took the fish purchased in the market. Tanangari Babu's wife Venkamma cooked the fish brought by the Chief Minister at their house. While Venkamma was making fish soup, CM Chandrababu stayed there and observed the process of cooking the curry.



He playfully turned the ladle for a while. He spoke to Venkamma's daughter, who had recently given birth, and inquired about the well-being of the mother and child. After Venkamma prepared the fish curry, they sat down and had their meal with the family members at their house. On this occasion, the CM himself served them fish soup with his own hands. Later, Chief Minister Chandrababu took a group photo with them. Tanangari Babu's family members thanked the Chief Minister for visiting their house.

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20,000 Aid Extended to Fishermen During Ban Period in Tirupati District

Tirupati, May 19 | TPN Bureau:

District In-charge Minister and State Revenue Minister Angani Satya Prasad announced that the Andhra Pradesh government is providing financial assistance of 20,000 to each fishing family affected by the annual fishing ban under the Matsyakara Sevala scheme. The initiative aims to support fishermen who temporarily lose their livelihoods during the 61-day marine fishing ban observed from April 15 to June 14 every year for conservation of marine resources.

The programme was formally launched by Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu from Tummalapenta village in Nellore district. Officials and public representatives in Tirupati district, including the District Collector Dr. S. Venkateswar

and Superintendent of Police L. Subbarayudu, participated virtually along with local MLAs and other leaders.

Under the scheme, 6.19 crore is being directly transferred through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) to 3,099 eligible fishermen in Tirupati district for the year 2026-27. Beneficiaries expressed gratitude to the government for the timely assistance. The Minister stated that the scheme now covers both owners and crew of non-motorized boats, ensuring broader inclusion.

He explained that beneficiary selection was conducted transparently, with lists displayed at RBK and GSWs centres, and a grievance redressal system in place. A detailed census carried out in Vakadu, Sulurpet, and Tada mandals identified 650 boats and 3,453 crew members. After six levels of verification through the Nava-

sakam Beneficiary Management (NBM) portal, 3,099 individuals were deemed eligible.

Some applicants were excluded due to criteria such as higher electricity usage, government employment, income tax status, ownership of significant assets, or lack of ration cards. The Minister emphasized that the government is prioritizing the welfare of fishermen by offering subsidies on equipment like nets, motors, and aerators, along with restoring fishing rights in water bodies. District officials highlighted additional measures, including plans to curb illegal fishing by boats from neighboring states, deployment of high-speed patrol boats, and coordination with marine police. Authorities reaffirmed their commitment to safeguarding fishermen's interests and strengthening coastal security.

Minister Angani Satya Prasad visits Gangamma Temple

Tirupati, May 19, TPN Bureau:

District in-charge Minister and State Revenue Registrations Minister Angani Satya Prasad said that the state government will provide all possible assistance for the development of the Gangamma Thalli temple in Tatayyagunta, Tirupati. The minister visited the temple on Tuesday. Chairman Nainar Mahesh Yadav, members of the governing body, and EO Jayakumar priests welcomed Minister Satya Prasad and Tuda Chairman Diwakar Reddy with a Poornakumbha amidst the chanting of Vedic mantras and made arrangements for a special darshan of the goddess. After the darshan, the minister, Tuda Chairman Dollars Diwakar Reddy and State Yadava Corporation Chairman Narasimha Yadav were presented with the Tirtha Prasad of the goddess. Minister Satya Prasad was presented with a portrait of Gangamma Thalli. Later, the Minister spoke to the media and said that Sri Tatayya Guntla-Gangamma Jataru Utsav was supposed to attend, but due to his inability to attend, he had to visit the goddess today. He said that the temple is being developed in all aspects under the leadership of Chairman Ma-



hesh Yadav, and that the government will provide full support for further development. He said that the goddess's Jataru Utsav was organized with unprecedented grandeur and grandeur with the support of the state government. Coalition leaders and others participated in this program.

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Lawmaker Warns Supply Contractors Against Defying Infrastructure Guidelines

Seethanagaram, May 19 | TPN Bureau

The local Member of the Legislative Assembly, Battula Balaramakrishna, has issued a stern warning to mineral supply contractors, asserting that any actions causing public inconvenience during resource transit will face zero administrative tolerance. He made it clear that strict punitive measures would be initiated against any operators found defying established legal frameworks and transport guidelines. Presiding over a high-level review assembly held alongside Tahsildar Ankam Srinivasa Rao at the Seethanagaram mandal revenue office, the lawmaker expressed deep indignation over recurring civic operational lapses, explicitly highlighting issues such as loose mineral spillage on public thoroughfares, excessive vehicle over-

loading, and unchecked speeding within residential zones. The legislator attributed the hazardous accumulation of spilled debris along key transport corridors directly to negligent practices, such as packing transport trucks beyond specified capacity limits and failing to secure them with protective tarpaulin sheets. Stressing that these logistical failures compromise commuter safety and disrupt daily public mobility, the law-

maker established a strict forty-eight-hour deadline for the operations teams. He mandated that the contractors must deploy their own financial resources and personnel to completely clear and restore the affected roadways within the next two days. To systematically address these transit vulnerabilities, the administration outlined several non-negotiable operational parameters that contractors must implement immediately. All mining and transport operations must strictly align with the exact volume limits codified by the state framework, meaning that cargo vehicles must never be stacked beyond their authorized payloads. Furthermore, transport operators are legally bound to completely secure and envelope their cargo beds with thick covers before departing the loading yards to avoid any secondary transit leakage.



CPI Demands Transparent Ward Re-division in Kadapa

Kadapa, May 19 | TPN Bureau:

CPI City Secretary N. Venkata Siva demanded that the ward re-division process in Kadapa Municipal Corporation be carried out in a transparent and democratic manner, alleging that the current exercise is being done arbitrarily.

Addressing a press conference at the CPI office on Tuesday, he said the delimitation of wards is a crucial issue affecting political representation, social balance and future governance. He accused the ruling party of attempting to manipulate ward boundaries for political advantage by misusing power in the process.

Venkata Siva expressed concern that complete division maps and detailed boundary information have not been made available to the public. He pointed out that the preliminary notification was not widely published in Telugu and was limited to a notice

board display in English, restricting public access and participation.

He alleged that population balance norms were not followed, with ward populations ranging widely, raising questions over fairness. He said the process deprived common people, especially the poor and those in slums, of the opportunity to review proposals.

The CPI demanded that maps be displayed at local secretariats, reservation details be disclosed, and the objection period be extended by a week. It also called for an all-party meeting and wider consultations to record public objections.

Party leaders warned against any politically motivated changes and urged citizens to examine proposals carefully and submit objections. CPI leaders Udde Maddileti, Takkoli Manohar Reddy, Vadla Bhagyalakshmi and others attended the meeting.



Tirupati District Police Recovers 500 Mobile Phones Worth Rs.1 Crore

Tirupati, May 19, TPN Bureau:

As part of the 14th phase of the "Mobile Recovery Mela" program organized by the Tirupati District Police on Tuesday, 500 mobile phones worth about Rs. 1 crore were recovered through the CEIR portal and handed over to the victims. In the 13 phases conducted so far, a total of 4,785 mobile phones worth Rs. 10 crore 52 lakh 70 thousand were recovered and handed over to the victims. Tirupati District SP Sri Y. Subbaraidu disclosed the details at a press conference organized at the Tirupati District Police Office. Speaking on the occasion, the District SP said that in the current era, mobile phones have become a vital part of everyone's life. Keeping in mind the difficulties faced by people when they lose such phones, they have been provided with the opportunity to register a complaint through CEIR services from home and get their mobile phones back without having to go to the police station. The SP said that Tirupati district police are tracking and recovering mobile phones from Andhra Pradesh as well as Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala and Maharashtra states and handing them over to the victims. He said that

those who have lost their mobile phones can easily get the CEIR link by sending a message of "Hi" to the WhatsApp number 9490617873 to avail CEIR services. He explained that complete guidance and technical assistance required to register a complaint on the CEIR portal will be provided through this number. People should be vigilant about the security of their mobile phones. Registering a complaint on the CEIR portal immediately after losing a mobile increases the chances of phone recovery. To protect themselves from cyber frauds and digital crimes, everyone should use strong passwords and do not share personal information with strangers. Tirupati district police are always committed to protecting public property. On the orders of the District SP, a special team has been formed under the leadership of Tirupati Cyber Crime Department CI Sri R. Vinod Kumar and is effectively carrying out mobile phone tracking and recovery programs. On this occasion, the SP congratulated the cyber crime staff who showed excellence in mobile recovery by giving them appreciation certificates. Additional SP Venkata Rao, Vinod Kumar Cyber Cell and staff participated in the program.

Red Cross striving for 100% Voluntary Blood Donations

Blood is the essence of human life, yet healthcare systems worldwide face a chronic and dangerous shortage of it, especially during pandemics and the summer. Technological advancements in modern medicine can transplant organs, clone genes, and manufacture complex synthetic drugs; however, science cannot manufacture human blood. It can only come from one source—a generous human donor.

To build a resilient healthcare network, societies must shift away from crisis-driven donation models. We must actively foster a culture centered on 100% voluntary, non-remunerated blood donation.

Many hospitals and Blood Centers still rely heavily on replacement donation, in which family members or friends donate blood to replace the units used for their loved ones. Sometimes, it is observed that the blood units are sourced from paid blood donors compromising the safety of the blood.

As a thumb rule, it is estimated that 1% of the population in our country needs blood units per year. At present, only 75% of the blood is collected voluntarily from the camps and in-house blood donors; the balance 25% is by way of replacements or from paid blood donors.

The common risks from replacement or paid blood donations are

Concealed Health Risks: Relatives under intense emotional stress or fear of displeasing their family often conceal their own medical histories or high-risk behaviours just to pass the screening interview.

Exploitation by Paid Donors: In desperate situations, families sometimes resort to paying commercial donors. Paid donors frequently lead lifestyles that expose them to transfusion-transmissible infections (TTIs) like HIV and hepatitis, solely motivated by financial gain. In many cases, paid donors are found to be drug addicts.

Inherent Inequity: A replacement system inherently puts the patient or their attendants under tremendous

pressure or trauma to find a suitable blood donor in emergencies.

Need for Voluntary Donation

Voluntary, unpaid blood donors are the ultimate foundation of a safe national blood supply. According to data tracked by the World Health Organisation (WHO), voluntary donors, especially regular, repeat donors, have the lowest rates of blood-borne infections.

Because voluntary donors give out of pure altruism rather than for financial needs or family panic. They are highly honest during the medical selection process. This self-selection serves as the first line of defence in protecting vulnerable patients from contaminated transfusions.

The demand for blood continues to escalate globally due to advancements in complex surgeries, trauma care, cancer treatments, and the management of chronic blood disorders like thalassemia and sickle cell anaemia.

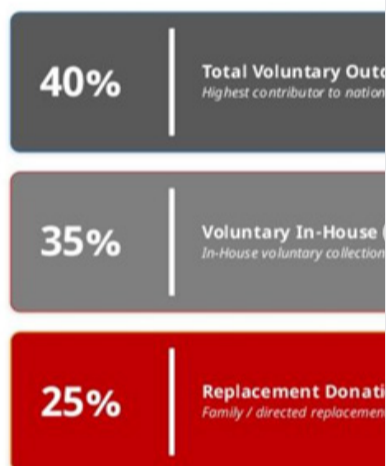
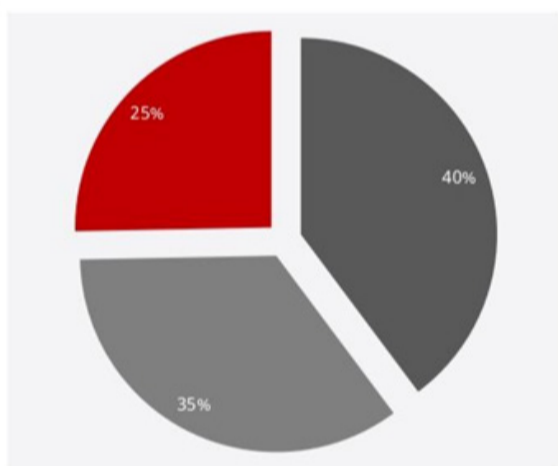
Furthermore, blood products have a remarkably short shelf life: platelets must be used within 5 to 7 days, and red blood cells last only up to 42 days. This means a single, massive blood drive-style collection event cannot solve a long-term shortage. What hospitals need is a steady, predictable, and continuous stream of regular donors, which facilitates the availability of safe blood around the clock.

Need to Build a Blood-Donation Culture

Despite the undeniable benefits, voluntary donation numbers remain low in many developing nations like India. To bridge this gap, public health authorities and communities must target the root causes of donor hesitation.

Dismantling myths and fears of many first-time donors, who hesitate to donate blood due to a fear of pain, fainting, or the false belief that donating permanently weakens the immune system. Awareness campaigns must clarify that the human body replenishes lost fluid volume within days.

Bloodcenters need to pri-



oritise donor comfort by optimising waiting times, offering friendly staff, and providing positive environments. A pleasant first-time experience drastically increases the likelihood that a person will become a lifelong, repeat donor.

Modern awareness campaigns should utilise social media platforms to broadcast the need and advantages of blood donations and make them heroes in protecting and saving valuable lives, which will be a lifetime memory.

While cash rewards undermine safety, ethical non-monetary incentives such as health screening packages, certificates of appreciation, or paid "blood donation leave" days from work—have proven highly effective at boosting donor registries.

Red Cross ahead in Voluntary Blood Donations
The Indian Red Cross Soci-

ety, AP State branch has made significant progress in promoting voluntary blood donation during the year 2025-26, achieving an impressive 96% voluntary blood donation rate across its blood centers.

The AP State Branch is currently operating 20 blood centers across the state. Andhra Pradesh has around 225 licensed blood centers, of which 44 are run by the Government, 20 by the Red Cross, and 161 by private organizations and NGOs.

The annual blood requirement of Andhra Pradesh is approximately 5.00 lakh units. Despite operating only 20 blood centers, the AP Red Cross has issued 1,16,462 units of blood during the year 2025-26, contributing nearly 24% of the total state requirement.

Increasing voluntary blood donation is not just a logistical task for hospitals, it is a

fundamental measure of community solidarity and civic responsibility. Every single donation can save up to three lives by being separated into red blood cells, plasma, and platelets. By shifting from a reactive mindset to a proactive, voluntary habit, we can ensure that no patient ever has to wait in jeopardy for a life-saving transfusion.



B.V.S. KUMAR
State Coordinator
Red Cross Blood
Centers
Andhra Pradesh

Smartwatch Heart Alerts Useful But Not a Final Diagnosis

Wearable ECGs are transforming heart care but require proper clinical interpretation.

A middle-aged gentleman recently came to my cardiology OPD with his Apple Watch ECG recordings. He had received an irregular rhythm alert and was understandably concerned. He had no chest pain, no fainting episode and no breathlessness, but the word "irregular" was enough to make him seek medical advice.

When we reviewed his watch tracings, most showed a normal rhythm. One recording looked unclear because of artefact, likely due to movement or poor contact during recording. His clinical ECG was normal. He did not have atrial fibrillation at that visit, but the watch had done something useful: it made him pay attention and consult a doctor.

This is the right way to look at smartwatches. They are not toys, and they are not replacements for doctors. They are screening tools that can bring timely attention to a possible heart rhythm problem.

Many modern smartwatches can measure heart rate and some can record a single-lead ECG. This can help detect atrial fibrillation, commonly called AFib. In AFib, the heartbeat becomes irregular because the upper chambers of

the heart are not beating in an organised way. Some people feel palpitations, fluttering, fatigue, dizziness or breathlessness. Some feel nothing at all. AFib is important because, in selected patients, it can increase the risk of stroke. Early detection gives doctors a chance to confirm the diagnosis, assess risk and start appropriate treatment when needed.

A smartwatch can be especially useful because rhythm problems often come and go. A patient may feel palpitations at night, but the ECG done in the clinic the next morning may be normal. A watch ECG taken during symptoms can provide a valuable clue.

At the same time, every recording must be interpreted carefully. A smartwatch ECG may be affected by hand movement, a loose strap, sweat or water on the skin, poor contact with the wrist, cold hands, tremors or nearby electrical interference. Recording immediately after exercise, climbing stairs or during anxiety may also give confusing results. These are not device failures; they are practical limitations of recording a medical signal from the wrist in everyday life.

A hospital ECG records the heart from multiple angles. A smartwatch ECG usually records from one angle. That sin-



gle-lead tracing can be very helpful for rhythm assessment, but it cannot diagnose everything. It cannot rule out a heart attack. It cannot tell whether heart arteries are blocked. It cannot replace clinical examination, a 12-lead ECG, Holter

monitoring, echocardiography or blood tests when these are required.

So what should a person do after an alert?

First, stay calm and check how you feel. If possible, sit down and repeat the ECG re-

ording properly: keep the watch snug, keep the wrist dry, rest the arm on a table or lap, and avoid moving during the 30-second recording. Save the tracing.

Second, show the recording to a doctor, especially if alerts

are repeated or if you have risk factors such as high blood pressure, diabetes, sleep apnea, obesity, previous stroke, known heart disease or a family history of heart disease.

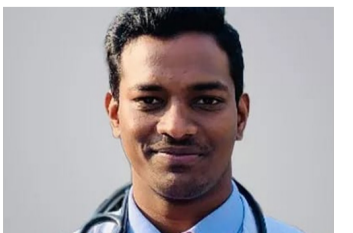
Third, seek urgent care if palpitations are associated

with chest pain, fainting, severe dizziness, breathlessness, sweating, weakness of one side of the body, slurred speech or a very fast heartbeat that does not settle.

The message is simple: respect the smartwatch alert, but do not self-diagnose. The watch can start the conversation; the doctor must complete it.

Used wisely, wearable technology can make people more aware, help capture rhythm problems early and improve communication between patients and doctors. The future of heart care will likely include more such devices. The key is not to fear them or blindly trust them, but to use them intelligently.

Technology can alert us. Medical judgment tells us what the alert means



Dr. Ram Manohar Talupula
MD, DM, (AIIMS, New Delhi)
Interventional Cardiologist
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Vijayawada

Court Issues Notice To AAP Leaders In Contempt Case Linked To Judge Remarks



A court has issued notices to several Aam Aadmi Party leaders in a contempt case related to remarks allegedly made against a judge, intensifying the legal and political confrontation involving the party. The case is connected to statements reportedly linked to former Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal and other party leaders regarding judicial proceedings.

The court's action came after allegations that certain public comments made by AAP leaders could amount to contempt of court by attempting to undermine the dignity and authority of the judiciary. The notices reportedly seek responses from the concerned leaders over their statements and conduct.

The controversy emerged after remarks were allegedly made questioning judicial decisions and the handling of cases involving senior AAP fig-

ures. Petitioners in the matter argued that such statements could erode public confidence in the judicial system and influence ongoing legal proceedings.

The court has now asked the leaders to explain why contempt proceedings should not be initiated against them. The matter is expected to be heard further in the coming days.

The development adds to the mounting legal challenges faced by the Aam Aadmi Party in recent months. Several senior party leaders, including Arvind Kejriwal, have been involved in legal and political disputes linked to corruption allegations, governance issues, and ongoing investigations.

AAP leaders, however, have repeatedly accused central agencies and political opponents of targeting the party for political reasons. The party has maintained that its leaders have the right to question ac-

tions they consider unfair or politically motivated.

Legal experts note that contempt of court cases involving political leaders often attract significant attention because they involve the balance between freedom of speech and maintaining respect for judicial institutions. Courts generally treat any attempt to scandalise or lower the authority of the judiciary seriously.

The case has already triggered political reactions, with opposition parties accusing AAP leaders of repeatedly attacking institutions whenever legal pressure increases. Meanwhile, AAP supporters argue that criticism of judicial processes should not automatically be treated as contempt if expressed within democratic limits.

Judicial independence and public confidence in the legal system remain highly sensitive issues in Indian politics. Courts have frequently emphasised that criticism must remain fair and should not cross into attempts to influence proceedings or damage institutional credibility.

The upcoming hearings are likely to be closely watched because the case involves prominent political leaders and broader questions surrounding free speech, political criticism, and the authority of courts in democratic systems.

As the legal battle continues, the controversy has once again placed the relationship between politics and the judiciary at the centre of national attention.

Former Uttarakhand Chief Minister BC Khanduri Passes Away At 91



Former Uttarakhand Chief Minister and senior BJP leader Major General Bhuwan Chandra Khanduri passed away at the age of 91, marking the end of an era in Indian politics and public service. Known for his clean image, disciplined leadership, and contributions to infrastructure development, Khanduri remained one of Uttarakhand's most respected political figures.

Khanduri reportedly passed away after age-related health complications. Leaders across political parties expressed condolences and paid tribute to his long public life dedicated to the nation both as an army officer and a politician.

Born in 1934 in present-day Uttarakhand, BC Khanduri served in the Indian Army before entering politics. He retired as a Major General and later joined the Bharatiya Janata Party, where he built a reputation as a straightforward and honest administrator.

Khanduri served as the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand twice and played a significant role in shaping the hill state during its early years after formation. He was widely appreciated for focusing on road connectivity, infrastructure, governance reforms, and anti-corruption measures.

Before becoming Chief Minister, he also served as a Union

Minister in the Atal Bihari Vajpayee government, handling the crucial Road Transport and Highways portfolio. During his tenure, he was associated with major infrastructure initiatives, including expansion of the National Highways network and implementation of large-scale road development projects.

Political observers often credited Khanduri with bringing military-style discipline and administrative efficiency into governance. His simple lifestyle and strong public image earned him respect even among political opponents.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, senior BJP leaders, and leaders from other parties expressed

grief over his demise. Many described him as a dedicated patriot, disciplined administrator, and leader who always prioritised public welfare.

In Uttarakhand, tributes poured in from across the state, with many remembering his contribution toward improving connectivity and governance in difficult hill regions. Supporters highlighted his role in strengthening infrastructure and promoting development in remote areas.

Khanduri also remained popular among ex-servicemen and defence communities because of his military background and continued advocacy for veterans' welfare after entering politics.

Throughout his political career, he maintained a reputation for integrity and honesty, qualities that distinguished him in Indian public life. Even critics often acknowledged his commitment to transparent governance and public accountability.

His death marks a major loss for Uttarakhand politics and the BJP, where he was considered one of the party's tallest leaders from the state. Many political leaders noted that his legacy would continue to inspire future generations of public servants and political workers.

With BC Khanduri's passing, India has lost a soldier, administrator, and politician whose career reflected decades of service to both the armed forces and democratic governance.

MK Stalin Predicts Collapse Of Vijay's TVK Government, Urges DMK Cadre To Stay Prepared

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister and DMK president MK Stalin has made a strong political statement by predicting the eventual fall of actor Vijay's Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) government, while urging DMK party workers to remain prepared for future political developments in the state.

Stalin's remarks come amid increasing political buzz surrounding actor Vijay's formal entry into active politics through his party TVK. The actor has rapidly gained public attention and support among sections of youth and first-time voters, creating fresh excitement in Tamil Nadu's political landscape.

Addressing party members, Stalin reportedly expressed confidence that the DMK would continue to remain a dominant force in Tamil Nadu politics despite the emer-

gence of new challengers. He called on party cadre to stay united, strengthen grassroots work, and be ready for any political scenario in the future.

The comments are being seen as one of the strongest direct responses so far from the DMK leadership toward Vijay's growing political presence. Although TVK is still a relatively new political force, Vijay's popularity as one of Tamil cinema's biggest stars has generated speculation about his potential electoral impact.

Political observers believe Stalin's statement reflects increasing attention within established parties toward Vijay's ability to attract younger voters and create anti-establishment momentum. Tamil Nadu politics has historically seen strong links between cinema and political success, with legendary actors such as MG

Ramachandran and Jayalalithaa successfully transitioning into major political leadership roles.

Vijay officially launched Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam earlier and has positioned the party as an alternative focused on governance, transparency, and public welfare. While the party has not yet faced a major electoral test, its public meetings and organisational expansion have drawn significant media attention.

The DMK, however, continues to remain politically strong under Stalin's leadership after securing a decisive victory in the 2021 Assembly elections. The ruling party has consistently highlighted welfare schemes, infrastructure projects, and social justice policies as key achievements of its government. Political analysts say Stalin's remarks could also

be aimed at energising DMK workers ahead of future elections by reinforcing the message that the party should not underestimate emerging political forces.

Meanwhile, supporters of Vijay and TVK have reacted strongly on social media, with many arguing that the actor's political rise reflects growing public desire for fresh leadership and change in Tamil Nadu politics.

The rivalry between established Dravidian parties and emerging political movements is expected to intensify as the state gradually moves toward future electoral battles. With Vijay continuing to expand his political presence and the DMK determined to protect its stronghold, Tamil Nadu politics could witness a highly competitive phase in the coming years.



Centre Denies Reports Of Gold Monetisation Scheme For Temples

The Central government has strongly denied reports claiming that it plans to introduce a gold monetisation scheme specifically targeting temples and religious institutions across the country. Officials clarified that no such proposal is currently under consideration, calling the circulating reports "false" and misleading.

The clarification came after speculation spread on social media and some reports suggested that the government was preparing a special initiative to mobilise gold held by temples under a monetisation programme. The reports triggered widespread discussion and criticism in certain sections, with concerns being raised about religious institutions and temple assets.

Responding to the controversy, government sources stated that there is no proposal to collect or monetise gold belonging to temples through any special scheme. Officials emphasised that the existing Gold Monetisation Scheme remains voluntary in nature and is open to all individuals and institutions, not specifically targeted at religious bodies.

The Gold Monetisation Scheme was originally launched to encourage people and institutions to deposit idle gold with banks in exchange



for interest returns. The broader objective of the scheme is to reduce dependence on gold imports and bring unused gold into the formal financial system.

However, rumours suggesting that temples would be specifically asked to hand over their gold reserves led to political reactions and public debate. Several social media posts and discussions questioned whether religious assets could be brought under

government control through such a policy.

Government representatives dismissed these claims and urged people not to believe unverified reports circulating online. Officials reiterated that no discussions or policy decisions have been made regarding compulsory or targeted monetisation of temple gold.

India is estimated to have one of the world's largest privately held gold reserves, including substantial quantities

stored in temples and religious institutions. Over the years, debates have occasionally emerged over whether idle gold reserves could be utilised more productively for the economy. However, such discussions have also remained highly sensitive due to religious and cultural sentiments attached to temple wealth.

Political observers noted that the government's quick clarification appears aimed at preventing unnecessary controversy and misinformation from spreading further. Religious institutions often hold deep emotional significance for devotees, making any rumours related to temple assets politically sensitive.

The issue also sparked wider conversations online about the balance between economic policy, religious autonomy, and public trust. While some economists have previously argued that monetising idle gold could benefit the economy, critics believe religious institutions should remain free from state intervention in matters involving sacred assets.

With the Centre now officially denying the reports, the controversy appears to have been driven largely by misinformation and speculation rather than any actual policy proposal.

Army Chief Calls Operation Sindoor A Display Of "Smart Power" After 88 Hours Of Planning

Army Chief General Upendra Dwivedi has described Operation Sindoor as a carefully planned demonstration of "smart power," saying the military action was executed after 88 hours of deliberate strategic thinking and preparation. His remarks have brought fresh attention to the operation and the broader approach adopted by India's armed forces in dealing with complex security challenges.

Speaking about the operation, General Dwivedi said the mission reflected a combination of military capability, strategic restraint, technology, coordination, and precise execution rather than impulsive action. He stressed that the planning process involved continuous assessment of operational conditions, intelligence inputs, and broader national security considerations before any decision was implemented.

The Army Chief highlighted that modern warfare and security operations are no longer driven only by raw force but increasingly depend on intelligence-based planning, technological integration, and calibrated responses. According to him, Operation Sindoor demonstrated how India's armed forces are evolving toward a more sophisticated and strategically balanced operational doctrine.

General Dwivedi explained that the 88-hour preparation pe-

riod was used to evaluate multiple scenarios, minimise risks, and ensure maximum operational effectiveness. He indicated that such operations require coordination between different branches of the military and security establishment, with careful attention to timing and execution.

The phrase "smart power" generally refers to the combined use of military strength, diplomacy, strategic communication, and technology-driven capabilities. Analysts believe the Army Chief's remarks signal India's growing emphasis on precision-based operations rather than prolonged conventional confrontation.

Although specific operational details remain limited, the comments suggest that Operation Sindoor involved a high level of tactical planning and decision-making under sensitive circumstances. Security experts note that military leadership increasingly prefers calculated responses designed to achieve strategic objectives while controlling escalation risks.

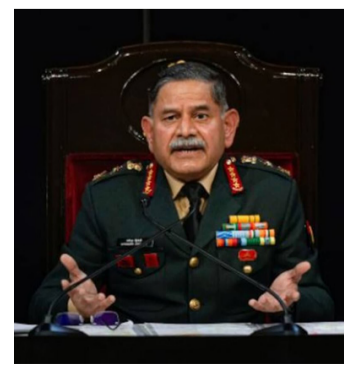
General Dwivedi also praised the professionalism and preparedness of Indian soldiers involved in the operation. He said the armed forces remain committed to safeguarding national security while adapting to rapidly changing warfare environments and emerging threats.

The remarks come at a time when India continues to focus

heavily on defence modernisation, indigenous military technology, surveillance systems, and integrated command structures. Military experts say future operations are likely to rely even more on real-time intelligence, cyber capabilities, drones, and rapid-response coordination.

The Army Chief's comments have drawn attention across strategic and defence circles, with many viewing them as an insight into the evolving mindset of India's military leadership. Observers believe the emphasis on planning, restraint, and precision reflects an effort to project India as a responsible but capable military power.

Operation Sindoor has now become part of broader discussions around India's security strategy, with General Dwivedi's remarks underlining the importance of patience, preparation, and calculated execution in modern military operations.



Donald Trump's Approval Ratings Fall As Iran War Concerns Grow

US President Donald Trump is witnessing a sharp decline in public approval ratings as concerns surrounding the ongoing Iran conflict and rising fuel prices continue to impact American voters. Multiple recent opinion polls suggest growing dissatisfaction with his handling of the economy and the war situation, creating political pressure ahead of the upcoming midterm elections.

According to several surveys, Trump's approval rating has dropped to one of the lowest levels of his second term. Public frustration appears to be driven largely by the economic fallout linked to tensions with Iran, including rising gasoline prices and inflation concerns. Many Americans reportedly believe the conflict has

increased financial pressure on households already struggling with the cost of living.

Polls also show strong opposition to the US military's involvement in the Iran conflict. A significant section of voters reportedly disapprove of Trump's handling of the war, with concerns ranging from economic impact to fears of prolonged instability in the Middle East.

The Iran conflict has remained a major issue in American politics since tensions escalated earlier this year. Rising crude oil prices and disruptions linked to the Strait of Hormuz have affected global energy markets, leading to increased fuel prices in the United States. Analysts say these economic consequences are di-

rectly influencing public opinion against the administration.

Reports indicate that many independent voters and younger Americans have become increasingly critical of Trump's foreign policy approach. Surveys suggest that support among some Republican voters has also weakened slightly compared to earlier months, though he still retains strong backing from a large portion of his party base.

At the same time, Trump has attempted to project confidence by claiming that diplomatic negotiations with Iran could still produce a breakthrough. Recently, he reportedly paused plans for possible military escalation, signaling that discussions and mediation efforts

were continuing.

Despite the political pressure, Trump and his supporters argue that his administration's tough stance on Iran is necessary for US national security. However, critics claim the conflict has damaged economic stability and increased uncertainty both domestically and internationally.

Political analysts believe the declining approval ratings could become a major challenge for Republicans in the upcoming elections if inflation, fuel prices, and geopolitical tensions continue to dominate public debate. Many observers are now closely watching whether diplomatic efforts with Iran can reduce tensions and improve economic conditions in the coming months.



Iran Tightens Control Over Strait Of Hormuz With New Shipping Rules

Iran has introduced a new regulatory framework for ships passing through the strategically crucial Strait of Hormuz, raising fresh concerns across global energy and shipping markets. The move comes amid continuing geopolitical tensions in West Asia and growing uncertainty over maritime security in one of the world's busiest oil transit routes.

According to reports, Tehran has created a new body called the Persian Gulf Strait Authority (PGSA) to oversee and regulate vessel movement through the narrow waterway. Under the new system, ships may be required to obtain transit authorisation, share operational details, and comply with specific navigation procedures before entering the strait.

The Strait of Hormuz is one of the world's most important maritime chokepoints, handling nearly one-fifth of global oil and gas trade. Any disruption or tighter control over the route has immediate implications for global energy prices, shipping costs, and international trade.

Reports suggest Iran may also impose transit-related charges or security fees on some vessels using the route. Iranian officials argue that the measures are necessary for maintaining maritime safety and securing the waterway during ongoing regional instability. However, Western countries and several shipping experts have questioned the



legality of imposing unilateral transit fees on an international shipping corridor.

The new rules are linked to the wider conflict involving Iran, the United States, and Israel earlier this year, which severely disrupted commercial shipping in the region. At one stage, tanker traffic through the strait reportedly dropped sharply, creating fears of a global energy supply crisis.

India has been closely monitoring the situation because a significant portion of its crude oil and LPG imports passes through the Strait of Hormuz. Indian officials have clarified that India-flagged vessels are currently not paying any transit tolls and continue to move based on safety assessments and diplomatic coordination.

Reports indicate that Iran has shown flexibility toward ships from countries such as India, China, and Russia, while vessels linked to the United States and its allies may face stricter scrutiny or operation-

al restrictions.

Shipping companies worldwide are now reassessing routes, insurance costs, and security risks linked to Gulf operations. Insurance premiums for vessels using the route have already increased sharply since the conflict began, adding further pressure on global trade and energy markets.

The latest developments have also intensified debate over freedom of navigation and maritime law. Iran maintains that it has sovereign rights to regulate security in the waterway, while Western powers argue that international shipping lanes must remain open without unilateral restrictions. Analysts believe the situation could continue affecting global oil prices, freight costs, and geopolitical relations in the coming months. As major powers closely watch Iran's next steps, the Strait of Hormuz once again remains at the centre of global strategic and economic tensions.

Putin's China Visit Highlights Beijing's Balancing Act Between Russia And US

Russian President Vladimir Putin is visiting China for high-level talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping in a closely watched diplomatic meeting that comes just days after US President Donald Trump completed his own visit to Beijing. The back-to-back meetings have drawn global attention, with analysts viewing them as a sign of China's growing influence in global diplomacy and international power politics.

Putin's visit is expected to focus on strengthening economic cooperation, energy partnerships, and strategic coordination between Russia and China. The two leaders are also likely to discuss major global issues, including the Ukraine conflict, Middle East tensions, and evolving relations with the United States.

The visit coincides with the 25th anniversary of the Sino-Russian Treaty of Friendship signed in 2001, a symbolic milestone that highlights the longstanding partnership between Beijing and Moscow. Over the past few years, China and Russia have significantly expanded trade, energy cooperation, and diplomatic engagement, especially after Western sanctions isolated Moscow following the Ukraine war.

At the same time, China is also trying to maintain relatively stable ties with the United States. Trump's recent Beijing summit with Xi Jinping focused on trade disputes, Tai-



wan, artificial intelligence, and the Iran conflict. The Chinese leadership appears to be carefully balancing its strategic partnership with Russia while avoiding a complete breakdown in relations with Washington.

Analysts believe the timing of Putin's visit is particularly important because it allows China to project itself as a major diplomatic power capable of engaging with both rival global powers within days. Beijing is increasingly presenting itself as a stabilising force amid rising geopolitical tensions across multiple regions.

Energy cooperation is expected to remain one of the key agenda items during the Xi-Putin meeting. Russia has

become one of China's largest energy suppliers, especially after Europe reduced dependence on Russian oil and gas. Discussions are likely to include the proposed Power of Siberia 2 gas pipeline, which could further deepen energy ties between the two countries.

The Middle East situation and the Iran conflict are also expected to feature prominently in discussions. China maintains close relations with both Russia and Iran and has increasingly positioned itself as a potential mediator in global conflicts. Beijing is particularly concerned about stability in the Strait of Hormuz because disruptions there directly affect Chinese trade and energy security. Western

countries continue to closely monitor the growing China-Russia partnership. Critics in the West argue that China's economic support has helped Russia withstand international sanctions. However, Beijing insists it remains neutral on the Ukraine conflict and supports diplomatic solutions rather than military escalation.

Putin's latest trip underlines how rapidly shifting global alliances are reshaping international politics. As competition between major powers intensifies, China appears determined to strengthen its strategic ties with Russia while simultaneously managing its complex and often tense relationship with the United States.

Pakistan Restores Lahore's Pre-Partition Street Names In Major Heritage Revival Drive

Pakistan's Punjab government has approved a major plan to restore several pre-Partition names of streets, neighbourhoods, and roads in Lahore as part of a large cultural heritage revival project. The move, backed by Punjab Chief Minister Maryam Nawaz and former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, aims to reconnect Lahore with its historical identity and multicultural past.

Over the decades following the 1947 Partition, many streets and localities in Lahore that once carried Hindu, Sikh, Jain, or British-era names were renamed with Islamic or nationalist identities. Under the new initiative, authorities are reversing many of those changes and bringing back older names that had remained alive in public memory for generations.

One of the most widely discussed changes is the restoration of Krishan Nagar, which had previously been renamed Islampura. Similarly, Sant Nagar is replacing Sunnat Nagar, while Dharampura is regaining its original identity after years as Mustafabad. Jain Mandir Chowk, Laxmi Chowk, Bhagwan Pura, Shanti Nagar, Ram Gali, and Mohan Lal Bazaar are among several historic names being revived across the city.

The decision is part of the



Lahore Heritage Areas Revival project, a large-scale urban restoration programme launched to preserve the city's architectural and cultural legacy. Officials say the effort is designed to celebrate Lahore's layered history as a city shaped by Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Christian, and colonial influences over centuries.

Reports indicate that new signboards carrying the restored names have already appeared in several parts of Lahore over the past two months. Authorities believe the project will help protect the city's heritage while also encouraging tourism and cultural awareness.

Supporters of the initiative have praised

the move as an important recognition of Lahore's multicultural roots before Partition reshaped the region. Many residents reportedly continued using the old names informally despite official renaming over the years. Historians and heritage experts argue that restoring these names helps preserve the memory of communities that once played a major role in Lahore's social and cultural life.

The restoration drive has also drawn attention because it represents a rare attempt in Pakistan to publicly acknowledge pre-Partition Hindu and Sikh heritage at such a visible scale. Analysts say the move signals a broader shift to-

ward heritage conservation and urban identity restoration rather than purely political or religious symbolism.

Lahore, often regarded as the cultural heart of Pakistan, was historically home to diverse religious communities before the violence and migration caused by Partition in 1947. Many temples, gurdwaras, colonial buildings, and heritage markets from that era still remain across the city, though several fell into neglect over time.

The government's heritage programme also includes restoration of historical buildings, preservation of old markets, removal of encroachments around heritage sites, and revival of culturally significant areas. Officials involved in the project say the goal is to restore Lahore's historic character while modernising infrastructure in a way that protects the city's architectural legacy.

The move has generated significant discussion across India and Pakistan, with many social media users describing it as an emotional reminder of the shared cultural history of undivided Punjab. Others believe the initiative could encourage broader conversations about preserving South Asia's diverse historical heritage beyond political and religious divisions.

Fresh Ebola Outbreak In Congo Raises Global Health Concerns

Health authorities in the Democratic Republic of Congo have confirmed a fresh outbreak of Ebola virus disease, triggering renewed global concern over the spread of the deadly infection in Central Africa. The outbreak involves the Bundibugyo strain of the Ebola virus, a relatively rare variant that has previously caused serious epidemics in parts of Africa.

Officials confirmed that several infections have been detected in eastern Congo, prompting emergency response measures from local health authorities and international organisations. Medical teams have been deployed to identify infected individuals, trace contacts, and contain the spread of the virus before it expands into neighbouring regions.

The latest outbreak has raised particular concern because eastern Congo has repeatedly struggled with Ebola outbreaks over the past decade due to fragile healthcare systems, armed conflict, population displacement, and limited medical infrastructure. Health workers fear that instability in the region could make containment efforts more difficult.

The Bundibugyo strain is considered different from the more widely known Zaire Ebola strain, which caused large outbreaks in West Africa and previous epidemics in Congo. Although the Bundibugyo variant generally shows a slightly

lower fatality rate compared to some other Ebola strains, it still remains extremely dangerous and highly infectious.

Symptoms of Ebola typically include fever, severe weakness, vomiting, diarrhoea, muscle pain, and in some cases internal and external bleeding. The virus spreads through direct contact with infected bodily fluids, contaminated surfaces, or infected animals.

Health experts are particularly concerned about cross-border transmission because Congo shares borders with several African countries, including Uganda, Rwanda, and South Sudan. Increased regional movement and trade raise the risk of the virus spreading beyond the immediate outbreak zone.

Uganda has already intensified health surveillance measures along its border with Congo to prevent possible infections from entering the country. Authorities in neighbouring regions are screening travellers, strengthening emergency response systems, and preparing isolation facilities in case new cases emerge.

The World Health Organization and other international health agencies are closely monitoring the situation and assisting local authorities with medical supplies, laboratory support, vaccinations, and emergency response teams. Rapid detection and isolation are considered critical for controlling Ebola outbreaks be-

fore they escalate into larger health emergencies.

Vaccination campaigns are expected to play a major role in the containment strategy. In recent years, Ebola vaccines have significantly improved the ability of health agencies to reduce transmission and protect frontline healthcare workers during outbreaks.

Public health experts warn that repeated outbreaks in the region highlight ongoing weaknesses in healthcare infrastructure and disease surveillance systems across parts of Central Africa. Poverty, conflict, and limited access to medical care continue to create conditions where infectious diseases can spread rapidly.

Although officials say there is currently no indication of a global health emergency, international agencies remain on high alert because Ebola outbreaks can escalate quickly if early containment efforts fail. Health authorities are urging communities to remain cautious, report symptoms immediately, and cooperate with medical teams working in affected areas.



Sensex Falls 114 Points, Nifty Slips Below 23,650 Despite Strong IT Rally

Indian stock markets ended lower in a volatile trading session as weakness in banking and financial stocks outweighed gains in the information technology sector. The BSE Sensex closed down by 114 points, while the NSE Nifty slipped below the crucial 23,650 mark despite a strong rally in major IT shares.

The market opened on a cautious note amid mixed global cues and continued concerns over geopolitical tensions, crude oil prices, and the weakening rupee. Although investors initially showed optimism following a decline in global oil prices, selling pressure in heavyweight banking stocks dragged the indices into negative territory by the end of the session.

The information technology sector emerged as the biggest positive contributor during the day. Shares of major IT companies such as Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services, Wipro, and Tech Mahindra witnessed strong buying interest. Analysts believe the sector benefited from the strengthening US dollar and expectations of stable global

technology demand. Since many Indian IT firms earn a significant portion of their revenue in foreign currencies, a weaker rupee generally improves their earnings outlook.

However, gains in IT stocks were offset by weakness in banking and financial shares. Several major private and public sector banks traded lower as investors remained cautious about foreign fund outflows, global interest rate trends, and currency volatility. Profit booking after recent gains also contributed to the decline in banking counters.

Market sentiment remained fragile due to uncertainty surrounding global geopolitical developments, particularly tensions involving Iran and concerns over crude oil supply disruptions. Although oil prices cooled slightly during the session, investors continued to remain cautious about the possibility of renewed volatility in energy markets.

The Indian rupee also remained under pressure against the US dollar, adding to concerns among investors. A weaker rupee often increases



import costs for India, especially for crude oil, which can impact inflation and corporate profitability.

Despite the weak closing, several sectors showed resilience. Apart from IT, selective buying was witnessed in telecom, pharmaceuticals, and metal stocks. Investors also reacted to quarterly earnings announcements and company-specific developments, leading to sharp movements in individual stocks throughout the session. Market experts believe volatility could continue in the near term as investors closely monitor

global economic data, geopolitical developments, foreign institutional investor activity, and movements in crude oil prices. Analysts also expect upcoming corporate earnings and policy signals from major global central banks to influence market direction. Overall, while the strong IT rally helped limit losses, weakness in financial stocks prevented the market from sustaining gains. The session reflected the cautious mood prevailing on Dalal Street as investors balanced optimism over easing oil prices against broader global uncertainties.

Vodafone Idea Shares Jump After CEO Signals Progress On 35,000 Crore Funding Plan

Shares of Vodafone Idea surged sharply after the company's CEO revealed that the telecom operator is actively engaged with an SBI-led consortium for a proposed funding package worth 35,000 crore. The update boosted investor confidence and triggered strong buying interest in the stock during trading.

Vodafone Idea shares climbed around 6 percent after management indicated that discussions with lenders were progressing positively. Investors viewed the development as a major step toward improving the company's financial stability and supporting its long-term expansion plans.

The telecom operator has been under significant financial pressure in recent years due to mounting debt, intense competition, and large adjusted gross revenue (AGR) liabilities. The proposed funding package is expected to play a crucial role in strengthening the company's balance sheet and helping it compete more effectively with rivals Reliance Jio and Bharti Airtel.

According to company officials, the planned funding would primarily be used for network expansion, technology upgrades, and strengthening 4G and 5G infrastructure across India. Vodafone Idea has been trying to improve service quality and customer retention as competition in the telecom sector continues to intensify.



The management reportedly stated that discussions with banks remain active and constructive, with lenders evaluating the overall business roadmap and future growth potential of the company. The involvement of a State Bank of India-led consortium has been seen as a positive sign by investors and market analysts.

The stock's rally also reflected hopes that fresh funding could improve Vodafone Idea's operational performance and help the company stabilise its subscriber base. In recent quarters, the telecom operator has faced subscriber losses as users shifted toward competitors offering wider network coverage and faster services.

Analysts believe successful fundraising would provide Vodafone Idea with much-needed financial flexibility to invest in network quality and participate more aggressively in India's rapidly expanding 5G market. Without significant capital infusion, the company has faced concerns regarding its long-term competitiveness. The telecom sector has become increasingly capital-intensive with companies investing heavily in spectrum acquisition, infrastructure expansion, and advanced technologies. Industry experts say Vodafone Idea requires substantial funding to maintain relevance in a market dominated by financially stronger rivals. Despite the

positive momentum, analysts cautioned that the funding process may still take time and depends on regulatory approvals, lender confidence, and execution of the company's business strategy. Investors are expected to closely monitor further announcements regarding timelines and final approval of the package.

The sharp rise in Vodafone Idea shares highlights how sensitive market sentiment remains to developments surrounding the company's fundraising efforts. For many investors, the proposed 35,000 crore package represents a potential turning point that could determine the telecom operator's future growth and survival in India's highly competitive telecom industry.

Voltas, Blue Star Shares Gain As Extended Heatwave Boosts Cooling Demand

Shares of major air-conditioner manufacturers Voltas and Blue Star rose sharply after weather agency Skymet predicted that hot weather conditions are likely to continue across several parts of India until the first week of June. The forecast increased investor optimism about stronger summer demand for cooling products, pushing both stocks higher during trading.

Voltas and Blue Star shares climbed up to 4 percent as market participants anticipated higher sales of air conditioners, coolers, and refrigeration products amid prolonged heatwave conditions. Investors believe the extended summer season could significantly benefit companies operating in the consumer cooling and home appliance segment.

According to Skymet, many regions in India are expected to continue experiencing above-normal temperatures in the coming weeks. Several states have already witnessed intense heatwave conditions this summer, leading to increased electricity consumption and strong demand for cooling appliances in both urban and semi-urban markets.

The weather forecast immediately triggered positive sentiment around air-conditioning and cooling-related stocks. Analysts noted that sustained high temperatures during the peak summer period generally translate into higher product sales, improved revenue growth, and stronger quarterly earnings for companies in the sector.



Voltas, one of India's leading air-conditioner brands, has already witnessed robust demand during the ongoing summer season. Blue Star has also been expanding aggressively in the residential and commercial cooling market, benefiting from rising consumer preference for premium cooling products and energy-efficient appliances.

Market experts believe the heatwave could continue driving strong retail demand across electronics stores and e-commerce platforms. Many consumers are reportedly advancing purchase decisions due to unusually high temperatures, creating favourable conditions for appliance manufacturers.

Apart from air conditioners, demand for refrigerators, air coolers, fans, and commercial refrigeration systems is also expected to remain strong if temperatures stay elevated through early June. Analysts say the weather factor could provide a major seasonal boost to the consumer durables sector.

Investors also reacted positively because the summer season plays a critical role in annual sales performance for cooling appliance companies. A longer and harsher summer often results in improved earnings visibility and stronger profit expectations.

The rally in cooling-related stocks came even as broader market sentiment remained cautious due to concerns over global geopolitical tensions, crude oil prices, and currency volatility. Sector-specific optimism helped Voltas and Blue Star outperform several other consumer-focused stocks during the trading session.

Industry observers believe weather forecasts are increasingly becoming an important factor influencing stock market trends, especially for sectors linked to seasonal consumption patterns. With temperatures expected to remain high across large parts of the country, cooling appliance makers may continue to stay in focus among investors in the coming weeks.

Rupee Falls To Fresh Record Low Beyond 96.50 Against US Dollar

The Indian rupee plunged to a fresh all-time low, breaching the 96.50 mark against the US dollar amid rising global uncertainty, strong demand for the American currency, and continued pressure from geopolitical tensions. The sharp decline in the rupee has increased concerns among investors and market participants about inflation, import costs, and economic stability.

The domestic currency weakened significantly during trading as the dollar strengthened globally. Analysts said heightened geopolitical tensions in the Middle East, especially involving Iran, pushed investors toward safe-haven assets such as the US dollar, leading to pressure on emerging market currencies including the rupee.

A major factor behind the rupee's fall has been the recent surge in crude oil prices. Since India imports a large portion of its oil requirements, higher global crude prices increase the country's import bill and widen the trade deficit. This often results in increased demand for dollars from oil-importing companies, putting

further pressure on the rupee. Although crude prices cooled slightly during the session after reports of easing geopolitical tensions, the rupee remained weak due to persistent global uncertainty and foreign fund outflows from Indian markets.

Market experts believe foreign institutional investor selling has also contributed to the rupee's decline. In recent sessions, overseas investors have reduced exposure to Indian equities and bonds amid rising global volatility and concerns about international economic conditions.

The weakening rupee has raised concerns about imported inflation, particularly in sectors dependent on overseas goods and raw materials. A weaker currency can make imports more expensive, increasing costs for industries such as oil, electronics, chemicals, and consumer goods.

At the same time, some export-oriented sectors may benefit from the rupee's depreciation. Information technology and pharmaceutical companies, which earn substantial revenue in foreign currencies,

could see improved earnings when converted into rupees. This partially explains the recent buying interest in IT stocks despite broader market weakness.

The Reserve Bank of India is expected to closely monitor currency movements to prevent excessive volatility. Market participants believe the central bank may intervene if the rupee continues to weaken sharply over the coming sessions.

Financial analysts noted that global factors currently remain the primary driver of currency markets. Developments related to US interest rates, geopolitical tensions, crude oil prices, and foreign investment flows are likely to determine the rupee's direction in the near term.

The record fall in the rupee reflects growing caution in global financial markets as investors react to uncertainty surrounding energy prices, geopolitical risks, and international economic conditions. Market observers expect continued volatility until clearer signals emerge from global developments.

Cupid Shares Slide After Massive Rally, Investors Weigh Buy, Sell Or Hold Decision

Shares of Cupid Ltd witnessed sharp selling pressure after the company announced its latest quarterly results, falling around 5.5 percent over two trading sessions. The decline comes after the stock delivered an extraordinary rally of nearly 500 percent over the past one year, making it one of the market's standout multibagger performers.

The correction in Cupid shares has triggered fresh debate among investors over whether to buy more, book profits, or continue holding the stock after its massive rise.

Market experts believe the recent decline is largely linked to profit booking by investors following the stock's remarkable rally. After such a strong upward movement in a short period, many traders appear to have locked in gains despite the company posting healthy business growth.

Cupid Ltd, known for

manufacturing condoms and other reproductive healthcare products, has attracted strong investor attention over the past year due to robust earnings growth, improved margins, export expansion, and rising demand in international markets. The company's improving financial performance had fueled optimism among retail investors and market participants.

However, analysts noted that high valuations after the sharp rally may have increased market sensitivity to quarterly earnings and future growth expectations. Even though the company's latest results remained broadly positive, some investors may have expected even stronger numbers considering the scale of the stock's previous gains.

The recent decline also reflects broader market caution, with investors becoming selective after sharp rallies in small-cap and mid-

cap stocks. Volatility has increased across the market due to concerns over global economic uncertainty, geopolitical tensions, and fluctuating investor sentiment.

Despite the correction, several analysts remain optimistic about the company's long-term growth prospects. They point to expanding export opportunities, rising healthcare awareness, and growing demand for reproductive health products as positive factors supporting future business growth.

At the same time, experts warn that stocks delivering multibagger returns often experience periods of sharp volatility and profit booking. Investors are generally advised to focus on business fundamentals, earnings consistency, and valuation levels rather than short-term price movements.

Some market observers believe long-term investors may continue holding the

stock if they remain confident about the company's growth trajectory. Others suggest partial profit booking could be a sensible strategy after such a steep rise, especially for investors with shorter investment horizons.

Technical analysts noted that the stock's near-term movement could depend on overall market sentiment and whether buying interest returns at lower levels. Any fresh positive business updates or strong future earnings could potentially revive momentum in the counter.

The sharp correction in Cupid shares highlights the challenges investors face after a stock experiences explosive growth. While the company continues to show strong business potential, market participants are now carefully evaluating whether the extraordinary rally can sustain further momentum in the coming months.



Applicant Rejected Over Non-Existent Degree Requirement Sparks Online Debate

A bizarre hiring incident has gone viral after a job applicant claimed they were rejected for not having a master's degree in a subject that does not even exist. The unusual case has reignited concerns about automated hiring systems, unrealistic job requirements, and the growing role of artificial intelligence in recruitment.

The applicant had applied for the role of a makerspace coordinator, a position responsible for managing collaborative workspaces equipped with tools such as 3D printers, fabrication machines, and creative technology resources. Confident in their experience, the candidate believed they were a strong fit for the role because

they had previously helped establish a makerspace in their state. However, the application was rejected due to the absence of a "Master's degree in Makerspace Management."

The problem, according to the applicant, is that no such academic degree actually exists. After receiving the rejection, the candidate reportedly searched online, contacted colleges, and investigated educational programs related to makerspaces, only to discover that universities do not offer a master's degree in that field. The closest match they could find was a certificate course related to crafting and creative technologies.

The story first appeared in a Reddit post and quickly at-

tracted widespread attention. Many social media users blamed Applicant Tracking Systems (ATS) and AI-driven recruitment software for the rejection. They argued that automated filters are increasingly being used by companies to screen resumes based on keywords and rigid qualification criteria, often without proper human review.

Several commenters criticised recruiters for depending too heavily on automation instead of understanding the actual skills required for a role. One user remarked that companies often create job filters without verifying whether the listed qualifications are real. Others joked that even if such a degree existed, it would be

too narrowly specialised for most people to pursue.

Some users also suggested practical solutions for job seekers dealing with automated systems. They advised candidates to include important keywords from job descriptions in their resumes so that AI systems are more likely to recognise relevant experience. Others recommended contacting hiring managers directly to bypass automated screening tools.

The incident has once again highlighted the flaws of modern hiring practices, where technology designed to simplify recruitment may sometimes eliminate qualified candidates before a human recruiter even reviews their application.



British Couple Busts Biggest India Travel Myth, Says Street Food Is 'Soul Of The Country'



A British couple travelling across India has gone viral on social media after sharing their experiences and challenging common stereotypes about the country. Through a series of videos and posts, the travellers praised India's culture, hospitality, and especially its street food, which they described as the "soul of the country."

The couple, who have been documenting their journey online, said many people outside India often assume that eating street food in the country is unsafe or unhygienic. However, after travelling through several cities and tasting local dishes, they claimed the reality was very different from the popular myths often spread on social media and travel forums.

In one of their videos, the travellers explained that Indian street food offers some of the most authentic and flavour-

warmth and friendliness shown by people made their travel experience even more memorable. According to them, Indian hospitality often exceeds expectations, with strangers willing to help tourists navigate unfamiliar places and recommend local delicacies.

The couple admitted they were initially cautious because of warnings they had heard before visiting India. However, they said following basic precautions such as eating freshly prepared food and choosing busy stalls helped them enjoy the experience without problems. They encouraged travellers not to let stereotypes prevent them from exploring India's food culture.

Their comments received widespread appreciation online, with many social media users thanking them for presenting a more balanced and positive image of India. Several Indian users expressed pride in seeing foreigners appreciate the country's traditions and cuisine, while others shared their own favourite street food recommendations.

The viral video has once again highlighted how travel experiences can challenge misconceptions and build cultural understanding. For the British couple, India's street food turned out to be much more than just a culinary adventure — it became a symbol of the country's vibrant spirit, diversity, and human connection.

During their journey, the pair visited busy markets and roadside stalls where they interacted with local vendors and residents. They said the

ful culinary experiences in the world. They said local food stalls are not just places to eat but also spaces where people gather, interact, and celebrate everyday life. According to them, trying street food is one of the best ways to truly understand India's culture and traditions.

The couple also spoke about the diversity of Indian cuisine, noting how every region offers unique flavours, ingredients, and cooking styles. From spicy chaats and crispy dosas to rich curries and sweet desserts, they said each dish reflected the history and identity of the local community. They especially appreciated how affordable and accessible the food was for travellers.

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Pakistani-Origin Entrepreneur Rents Theatre In US To Screen '3 Idiots' For Inspiration

A Pakistani-origin entrepreneur based in San Francisco has captured social media attention after renting an entire theatre to screen the Bollywood classic 3 Idiots for the public. The initiative, inspired by the film's emotional and motivational message, quickly went viral online and sparked nostalgia among movie lovers across the world.

The entrepreneur, Farza Majeed, announced on social media that he had booked a 250-seat theatre in San Francisco to host a screening of the 2009 blockbuster starring Aamir Khan, R. Madhavan, and Sharman Joshi. According to him, the event was meant for people who feel stuck in life, need motivation, or simply want to enjoy a heartfelt film with others.

In his post, Majeed described 3 Idiots as one of the greatest films ever made and praised its story about friendship, self-discovery, and the pressure young people face while deciding their future. He said the movie had personally helped him during difficult phases of life, and he wanted others to experience the same inspiration and positivity.

The screening is scheduled to take place at the Marina Theatre in San Francisco on May 24. The film will be shown with English subtitles so that even people unfamiliar with Hindi cinema can



enjoy it. Tickets were reportedly priced at a minimal amount and limited to one per person to ensure fair access for everyone interested in attending.

The announcement received an overwhelming response online. Social media users praised the entrepreneur's initiative, calling it thoughtful and refreshing. Many people shared memories of watching 3 Idiots with friends and family when it first released in 2009. Others described the film as timeless

because of its emotional storytelling and strong message about following one's passion instead of blindly chasing societal expectations.

Several users also highlighted how the movie continues to remain relevant, especially among students and young professionals dealing with academic stress, career confusion, and societal pressure. One commenter said the movie still makes them laugh and cry even after multiple viewings, while another called the public screening

an "epic initiative."

Directed by Rajkumar Hirani, 3 Idiots became one of Indian cinema's most celebrated films after its release. The movie follows the lives of three engineering students navigating India's competitive education system while learning important lessons about friendship, happiness, and personal dreams. Over the years, the film has gained a massive international fan base and continues to inspire audiences globally.

Customer Shocked After Receiving 165 Pool Noodles In 165 Separate Boxes



A customer in the United States was left stunned after receiving an online order of 165 pool noodles delivered in 165 separate boxes. The bizarre delivery quickly became a viral sensation on social media after a video showing the massive pile of packages gained widespread attention online.

The unusual incident reportedly began when the customer placed an order for pool noodles through an online retailer. While the buyer expected a bulk shipment packed efficiently together, each individual noodle arrived separately in its own cardboard box. The result was an enormous stack of identical packages filling the

customer's home and creating what many online users described as a "packaging nightmare."

A video capturing the delivery chaos was shared online and soon attracted millions of views. In the clip, dozens upon dozens of long cardboard boxes can be seen stacked across the property, leaving viewers both amused and confused. Many social media users joked that the delivery looked more like a warehouse shipment than a regular household order.

The customer reportedly expressed disbelief over the excessive packaging and questioned how such a delivery method could have been approved. Apart from the in-

convenience of handling hundreds of boxes, many people online also raised concerns about the environmental impact of unnecessary packaging waste.

The viral video triggered a flood of humorous reactions across social media platforms. Some users joked that the shipping company must have misunderstood the concept of "bulk order," while others imagined the confusion of the delivery workers tasked with transporting the packages. One commenter sarcastically wrote that each pool noodle must have been treated like a "fragile luxury item."

Others criticised large retailers and logistics compa-

nies for inefficient packaging practices, saying the incident highlighted how automation and warehouse systems can sometimes create absurd outcomes. Several people pointed out the amount of cardboard, tape, fuel, and labour wasted in sending each lightweight noodle separately instead of combining them into a few larger packages.

Environmental concerns also became a major topic in the discussion. Many viewers argued that such packaging practices contribute unnecessarily to waste and pollution, especially at a time when companies are promoting sustainability initiatives. Some users urged businesses to improve packaging systems and adopt more eco-friendly shipping methods.

Despite the criticism, the bizarre delivery also entertained thousands online, with many users admitting they could not stop laughing at the sight of hundreds of nearly identical boxes. Memes and jokes related to the incident quickly spread across social media, turning the unusual shipment into one of the internet's latest viral moments. The incident serves as another reminder of how modern e-commerce systems, while designed for speed and efficiency, can sometimes produce surprisingly ridiculous results that capture the internet's attention.

Instagram Star Ashton Hall's Visit To Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh's UP Residence Goes Viral



American fitness influencer and Instagram star Ashton Hall recently grabbed attention during his visit to Uttar Pradesh, where he met former Wrestling Federation of India chief and ex-MP Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh. The visit, which took place at Nandini Nagar College in Gonda district, quickly became a major talking point on social media after videos and pictures from the event went viral.

Hall, who has millions of followers on Instagram and is known for his fitness content, is currently touring India. During his visit to Uttar Pradesh, he was welcomed by Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh and participated in several sports-related and cultural activities at the college campus.

The influencer interacted with local wrestlers and sports students, distributed sports kits, and observed wrestling training sessions at the Wrestling Federation's local training centre. Videos from the event showed Hall taking pho-

tographs with young athletes and encouraging them to stay disciplined and focused on fitness and sports.

Apart from wrestling activities, Hall also joined local children for a friendly game of cricket on the college grounds. Social media clips captured the fitness star batting, laughing with children, and recording moments for his online audience. Many users online praised his friendly and energetic interaction with students and local residents.

One of the most talked-about parts of the visit was Hall's tour of Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh's private residence. According to reports, the influencer explored the large estate, visited the stables, saw expensive horses, and even checked out a private helicopter kept on the property. Hall also reportedly spent time working out in the residence gym, where he was seen lifting a traditional Indian gada, or mace, commonly associated with Indian

wrestlers.

The videos quickly spread across social media platforms, with many users reacting to the scale of the estate and the unusual crossover between a global fitness influencer and an Indian political figure. Supporters described the event as a positive interaction that highlighted Indian wrestling culture and hospitality.

However, the visit also sparked discussions online because Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh has remained a controversial figure in Indian sports and politics. The former Wrestling Federation chief has faced allegations and legal controversies in recent years, making the meeting a subject of debate among social media users.

Despite the mixed reactions, Hall's visit generated massive online engagement and introduced many of his international followers to India's wrestling traditions, local sports culture, and rural hospitality.

MS Dhoni Played Key Role In Urvil Patel's Record-Breaking Fifty Against LSG

Young Chennai Super Kings batter Urvil Patel delivered one of the most explosive innings of IPL 2026 during CSK's clash against Lucknow Super Giants, and the youngster later revealed that MS Dhoni played a major role behind his fearless performance. Urvil smashed a sensational half-century at record pace, helping CSK stay alive in the playoff race with a crucial victory. The young batter attacked the LSG bowlers from the very beginning, displaying remarkable confidence and clean hitting under pressure. His aggressive approach completely

shifted the momentum in CSK's favour and left fans and experts stunned. Urvil's blistering knock quickly became one of the standout batting performances of the season. After the match, Dhoni spoke about the influence MS Dhoni had on his mindset before and during the innings. According to the youngster, Dhoni advised him to stay calm, trust his natural game, and avoid overthinking the situation. Urvil said the CSK captain's confidence in him gave him the freedom to play attacking cricket without fear of failure. The batter explained that

Dhoni's guidance helped him focus on reading the ball rather than worrying about the pressure of the occasion. He added that sharing the dressing room with a legend like Dhoni has already taught him valuable lessons about handling high-pressure situations. Fans on social media praised Dhoni's mentorship skills once again, with many pointing out how several young players have flourished under his leadership over the years. Supporters highlighted that Dhoni's calm presence and tactical understanding continue to inspire emerg-

ing cricketers even in the later stages of his career. Urvil's fearless innings also drew praise from cricket experts, who admired his ability to dominate experienced bowlers on such a big stage. Many described the knock as a breakthrough moment in the youngster's career and predicted a bright future for him in Indian cricket. The victory proved extremely important for Chennai Super Kings, as it kept their playoff hopes alive in a tightly contested IPL season. The team's batting unit looked more confident and aggressive, with Urvil's innings providing

the perfect boost at a crucial stage of the tournament. Meanwhile, Dhoni's impact beyond statistics once again became a major talking point among fans. Even though much attention often focuses on his finishing abilities and captaincy records, many believe his greatest contribution to CSK lies in nurturing young talent and building players mentally for pressure situations. For Urvil Patel, the memorable innings was not just about personal success but also about earning the trust of one of cricket's greatest leaders.



Major Selection Headaches For BCCI Ahead Of Afghanistan Series

The BCCI selection committee is reportedly facing several crucial decisions ahead of India's upcoming Test and ODI series against Afghanistan. With concerns over fitness, workload management, and leadership roles, selectors are expected to make some high-profile calls while finalising the squads. One of the biggest talking points is Rohit Sharma's fitness and availability. Reports suggest the selectors are carefully evaluating his physical condition after a demanding IPL season. Although Rohit remains one of India's most experienced players, there is uncertainty over whether he will be fully fit for the upcoming assignments.



Hardik Pandya's place in the ODI setup has also become a subject of discussion. The all-rounder has reportedly been dealing with fitness concerns related to lower back stiffness, and selectors are said to be cautious about rushing him back into action. Given India's packed international calendar, the management wants key players to remain fully fit for major tournaments ahead. Another major development surrounds Rishabh Pant's role as vice-captain in the Test format. According to reports, the team management is considering relieving Pant of leadership responsibilities so he can focus entirely on his wicket-keeping and batting. Pant remains one of India's most impactful match-winners, but the selectors are reportedly evaluating whether reducing leadership pressure could help

maximise his performance. Workload management of fast bowlers is also expected to dominate discussions. Jasprit Bumrah could reportedly be rested for parts of the Afghanistan series to keep him fresh for important future tours. Mohammed Siraj's workload and recent form are also under review before the final squad announcement. At the same time, Virat Kohli's place in the ODI side appears secure. Despite ongoing discussions around transition and squad rebuilding, Kohli's recent form and experience continue to make him one of the pillars of India's batting lineup. The selection meeting is also likely to include debates over India's spin department. The selectors reportedly face a difficult choice between experienced all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja and Axar Patel, who

has impressed consistently in recent outings. Washington Sundar and young all-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy are also believed to be strongly in contention due to their recent performances. The Afghanistan series is being viewed as an important phase for India as preparations begin for future ICC events and long-term squad planning. The selectors are expected to balance experience with the need to gradually build the next generation of players. With multiple fitness concerns, leadership questions, and competition for places, the squad announcement has generated huge anticipation among cricket fans. The final decisions taken by the Ajit Agarkar-led selection committee could shape India's plans for the coming international season.

Suresh Raina's Question To MS Dhoni About IPL 2027 Leaves CSK Fans Emotional

Chennai Super Kings fans were left emotional after former cricketer Suresh Raina revealed his recent conversation with MS Dhoni regarding the possibility of playing in IPL 2027. The interaction has gone viral on social media, sparking fresh speculation about Dhoni's cricketing future and a possible retirement from the IPL.



The conversation reportedly took place after Chennai Super Kings' home match against Sunrisers Hyderabad at the MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai. During the post-match lap of honour, Dhoni met former teammate and close friend Suresh Raina, leading to an emotional exchange that quickly became a major talking point among cricket fans.

According to Raina, he directly asked Dhoni whether he would return to play in IPL 2027. In response, Dhoni reportedly said that his "body is a little weak," a statement that immediately triggered emotional reactions from CSK supporters. Many fans interpreted the comment as a possible indication that the legendary wicketkeeper-batter may be nearing the end of his IPL journey.

Despite the emotional response, Dhoni did not officially confirm retirement, leaving fans hopeful that he could still return for another season. Raina himself hinted that the

door may not be completely closed yet, suggesting that Dhoni could still surprise everyone by making another comeback in the tournament. The emotional moment gained even more attention because IPL 2026 has already been filled with discussions surrounding Dhoni's future. Although he has remained one of the most iconic faces of Chennai Super Kings, recurring fitness concerns and workload management have become major topics in recent seasons. Fans at Chepauk gave Dhoni a thunderous reception during

CSK's final home appearance of the season. Videos of the crowd chanting his name and celebrating his presence flooded social media platforms, highlighting the deep emotional connection between Dhoni and CSK supporters. The bond between Dhoni and Raina has always been special in Indian cricket. Both players were central figures in Chennai Super Kings' golden era and played crucial roles in multiple IPL title victories. Their friendship has remained strong even after retirement from international cricket, making their latest interaction

even more emotional for fans. For millions of CSK supporters, Dhoni is more than just a cricketer — he represents the identity and spirit of the franchise. As retirement rumours continue to grow, every appearance and every statement from the former CSK captain now carries enormous emotional value. While there is still no official confirmation regarding IPL 2027, Dhoni's latest comment has certainly left fans anxious about whether they may soon witness the final chapter of one of the greatest careers in IPL history.

KKR Overtake CSK And RCB To Become IPL's Most Valuable Franchise

Kolkata Knight Riders have emerged as the most valuable franchise in the Indian Premier League, surpassing traditional giants Chennai Super Kings and Royal Challengers Bengaluru in the latest Hurun Sports report. The development marks a significant shift in the IPL business landscape, highlighting KKR's growing commercial strength, brand appeal, and global fan following. According to the report, KKR's brand valuation witnessed a major rise following the franchise's recent on-field success and expanding marketing influence. The team's strong performances, combined with aggressive branding, sponsorship deals, and digital popularity, reportedly played a major role in pushing the franchise to the top of the valuation charts.



Chennai Super Kings and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, long considered among the league's most dominant commercial brands, were pushed behind KKR in the latest rankings. While CSK continues to enjoy immense popularity due to MS Dhoni's legacy and consistent success, KKR's recent momentum appears to have given the franchise an edge in overall market value. The report also highlighted the enormous popularity of Virat Kohli, who was ranked as the most valuable player brand in the IPL. Despite RCB not winning the IPL title in recent years,

Kohli's global fan base, endorsement power, and social media influence continue to make him the league's biggest individual commercial asset. Kohli's consistent performances, fitness image, and strong connection with fans have helped him remain one of the most marketable athletes in world cricket. Industry experts believe his influence extends far beyond cricket, making him a favourite among advertisers and global brands. KKR's rise has been credited not only to cricketing performances but also to the franchise's strong entertainment-driven identity. Owned by Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan's Red Chillies Entertainment group, the franchise has successfully blended sports, entertainment, and digital engagement to build a powerful global brand. The team's passionate fan base across India and overseas markets has also contributed significantly to its commercial growth.

KKR's presence on social media platforms and its ability to connect with younger audiences have reportedly strengthened its market position. Meanwhile, franchises like Mumbai Indians, Sunrisers Hyderabad, and Rajasthan Royals also recorded strong valuations, reflecting the IPL's growing status as one of the world's most commercially successful sports leagues. The report once again underlined how the IPL has evolved beyond cricket into a massive business and entertainment ecosystem. Franchise values are now influenced not only by trophies and performances but also by digital reach, celebrity associations, merchandising, sponsorships, and global brand visibility. For KKR fans, the latest achievement is another proud moment in the franchise's history. Rising to the top of the IPL valuation charts has reinforced the team's position as one of the most influential and commercially successful brands in modern cricket.

Chennai To Host Big Bash League Season Opener In Historic First

Cricket fans in India are set for a unique experience as Chennai has reportedly been chosen to host the opening match of the upcoming Big Bash League season in December. The move marks a historic moment, as it will be one of the first major overseas events officially linked to Australia's premier T20 tournament.



The decision is being viewed as a significant step toward expanding the global reach of the Big Bash League. Cricket Australia is reportedly exploring new international markets to strengthen the league's popularity, and India has emerged as a key destination because of its massive cricket audience and strong T20 fan base. According to reports, the opening match is expected to feature top BBL franchises and several internationally recognised players. Organisers believe hosting the opener in Chennai could generate enormous attention, especially considering the city's passionate cricket culture and its reputation as one of India's strongest cricket centres.

The MA Chidambaram Stadium, popularly known as Chepauk, is likely to host the event. The venue is famous for its energetic crowds and rich cricketing history. Fans in Chennai are known for their deep understanding of the game and enthusiastic support

for both Indian and international players. The proposed move has already sparked excitement among cricket followers on social media. Many fans welcomed the idea of witnessing Big Bash action in India, while others described it as a major moment for the globalisation of franchise cricket. Some users even compared the development to football leagues hosting exhibition matches across different countries to expand their international fan base. Industry experts believe the decision could benefit both Australian and Indian cricket markets. For the Big Bash League, staging a match in In-

dia could increase sponsorship opportunities, broadcasting reach, and digital engagement. For Indian fans, it would offer a rare opportunity to watch overseas T20 franchises and Australian cricket stars live on Indian soil. The move also highlights how franchise cricket is evolving into a global entertainment business. T20 leagues are increasingly exploring international collaborations, overseas fan engagement, and cross-border commercial opportunities. Hosting a BBL match in Chennai could open the door for more international league events in India in the future. Several current and former

Australian cricketers reportedly welcomed the idea, believing Indian conditions and crowds would create an electrifying atmosphere for the tournament opener. Chennai's spin-friendly conditions and cricket-loving audience are expected to add a unique flavour to the event. Although official confirmation and scheduling details are still awaited, the reports have already created significant buzz among cricket fans. If finalised, the Chennai opener could become one of the most talked-about moments in the history of the Big Bash League and another major example of cricket's growing global appeal.

'Peddi' Trailer Creates Nationwide Buzz, Fuels Massive Pan-India Expectations

The trailer of Ram Charan's highly anticipated film Peddi has taken the internet by storm, creating massive excitement among movie lovers across India. Within hours of its release, the trailer began trending on social media platforms, with fans praising the film's intense visuals, emotional storytelling, and powerful performances. The overwhelming response has positioned Peddi as one of the most awaited Indian films in recent times.

Directed by Bu-chi Babu Sana, Peddi is a sports action drama featuring Ram Charan in a rugged and emotionally charged role. The actor appears in a completely transformed avatar, portraying a fearless village hero with strong emotional depth and raw intensity. Fans and film enthusiasts have especially appreciated Charan's screen presence, body language, and high-energy performance shown in the trailer.

The trailer launch event, held on a grand scale in Mumbai, further amplified the excitement surrounding the film. The event attracted huge attention from both media and fans, highlighting the makers' ambition to position Peddi as a major pan-Indian entertainer. Janhvi Kapoor, who stars opposite Ram Charan, also drew attention with her appearance and role in the trailer.

One of the biggest highlights of the trailer is its blend of sports drama, village backdrop, emotional conflict, and action-packed sequences. The visuals, cinematography, and background score have been widely praised online. Many viewers noted that the film carries a rooted Indian flavour while still delivering the scale and cinematic appeal expected from a pan-India blockbuster. The film also features a strong supporting cast including Kannada star Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, and actor Divyendu, whose intense character introduction recently generated additional curiosity among fans. Social media discussions around the film have continued to grow, with hashtags related to Peddi dominating entertainment trends.

Several celebrities and industry personalities have also reacted positively to the trailer. Kannada actor Rishab Shetty called the trailer "spectacular" and praised Ram Charan's performance, further boosting anticipation among audiences beyond Telugu cinema. The film's music, composed by legendary musician A.R. Rahman, has added another layer of excitement. Fans believe the combination of Ram Charan, Bu-chi Babu Sana, and Rahman could deliver a memorable cinematic experience. With its powerful trailer, emotional storytelling, large-scale production, and strong performances, Peddi has now emerged as one of the most talked-about upcoming Indian films. The extraordinary response suggests that the movie could become a major box-office event across multiple languages and regions.

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Star Hero To Play Father And Son In Upcoming Big-Budget Entertainer

A leading South Indian star is reportedly set to take on a challenging dual role by playing both father and son in his upcoming big-budget film. The news has generated huge excitement among fans and movie enthusiasts, as dual-role performances often create strong anticipation in commercial cinema.

According to industry reports, the actor will portray two completely different characters belonging to separate generations. The father's role is expected to carry emotional depth and authority, while the son's character will reportedly showcase youthful energy, action, and mass appeal. The makers are said to be designing the film as a large-scale entertainer with a strong emotional core.

Sources suggest that the project will feature a storyline revolving around family relationships, legacy, revenge, and generational conflict. The narrative is expected to move across different timelines, allowing the actor to present two distinct appearances and performance styles within the same film. Fans are particularly excited to see how the star will differentiate the two roles through body language, dialogue delivery, and screen presence.

Dual-role films have traditionally been popular in Indian cinema, especially when major stars take up contrasting characters. Such roles often give actors an opportunity to showcase versatility while also appealing to audiences with



emotional drama and commercial entertainment. The upcoming film is reportedly being planned on a grand scale to attract audiences across multiple languages and regions.

The production team is said to be investing heavily in visual presentation, action sequences, and high-quality technical work. Reports indicate that the film will feature elaborate set designs, large-scale action episodes, and emotionally charged moments aimed at delivering a complete theatrical experience. The makers are also expected to rope in top technicians and music composers for the project.

Fans on social media have already begun discussing possible storylines and character arcs after the news surfaced online. Many users expressed excitement over seeing their favourite star in two generations of roles, while others predicted that the emotional bond

between the father and son characters could become the highlight of the film.

Industry observers believe the dual-role concept could significantly increase the movie's pan-Indian appeal, especially if supported by strong storytelling and commercial elements. Recent success stories in Indian cinema have shown that audiences continue to enjoy emotionally driven action dramas with larger-than-life characters and family emotions.

Although the makers have not officially revealed complete details about the storyline, the announcement itself has created strong buzz in film circles. With a major star taking on a demanding double role and the film being mounted on a lavish scale, expectations are already rising for what could become one of the most talked-about projects in the coming years.

Kamal Haasan's Decision For Kalki 2 Wins Hearts Online

Veteran actor Kamal Haasan has once again earned admiration from fans and film lovers after reports emerged about his inspiring decision regarding Kalki 2. The actor's gesture has gone viral on social media, with many praising his professionalism, dedication to cinema, and support for the film's vision.

According to reports, Kamal Haasan has decided to allocate additional dates and give complete priority to the shooting schedule of Kalki 2 to ensure the project progresses smoothly. The actor, who played a powerful and mysterious role in Kalki 2898 AD, reportedly wants the sequel to be completed without delays so that the makers can deliver an even grander cinematic experience to audiences.

Fans have appreciated the actor's commitment despite his packed schedule involving multiple projects, political responsibilities, and other film commitments. Social media users described the move as a reflection of Kamal Haasan's passion for cinema and his respect for filmmakers who aim to create large-scale, ambitious films.

Kalki 2898 AD, directed by Nag Ashwin, became one of the biggest Indian films in recent years after receiving massive success across multiple languages. The movie featured a star-studded cast including Prabhas, Deepika Padukone, Amitabh Bachchan, and Kamal Haasan. While Kamal appeared only briefly in the first part, his character created



huge curiosity and is expected to play a much bigger role in the sequel. The actor's performance in the film was widely appreciated for its intensity, screen presence, and unique appearance. Many viewers felt that his character introduction was one of the strongest moments in the movie, leaving audiences eager to see more in the upcoming sequel.

Following the reports about his decision, fans flooded social media with praise, calling Kamal Haasan a "true legend" and a "complete actor" who always prioritises quality cine-

ma. Several users also highlighted how senior actors like him continue to inspire younger generations through their discipline and dedication.

Industry observers believe Kamal Haasan's involvement will significantly increase anticipation for Kalki 2, especially because the sequel is expected to expand the futuristic world established in the first film. The makers are reportedly planning larger action sequences, deeper character arcs, and a more emotionally powerful storyline.

Director Nag Ashwin has al-

ready hinted that the sequel will explore the conflict between major characters in greater detail. With Kamal Haasan expected to have a much larger screen presence this time, excitement surrounding the film has continued to grow rapidly among audiences across India.

As discussions around Kalki 2 intensify online, Kamal Haasan's latest decision has further strengthened fans' expectations for what could become one of Indian cinema's biggest upcoming blockbusters.

Why Mohanlal's Drishyam 3 Is Generating Surprisingly Low Pre-Release Buzz

Mohanlal's Drishyam franchise is regarded as one of the finest thriller series in Indian cinema. Both earlier films received massive appreciation for their gripping storytelling, emotional depth, and intelligent screenplay. Naturally, expectations for Drishyam 3 are extremely high. However, despite the popularity of the franchise and Mohanlal's star power, the upcoming sequel is currently witnessing surprisingly weak pre-release buzz compared to other major Indian films.

One of the biggest reasons behind the muted excitement is the unusually long gap between the previous installment and the third film. While Drishyam 2 created strong impact during its release, the momentum surrounding the franchise has gradually cooled over time. Many fans believe the makers delayed the sequel announcement for too long, reducing the immediate hype that usually surrounds successful franchises.

Another factor is the lack of aggressive promotional activity so far. Apart from reports and occasional updates, the makers have not yet released major promotional material such as a teaser, trailer, or first-



look campaign capable of dominating social media trends. In today's film industry, consistent digital promotion often plays a major role in building anticipation months before release.

The rise of pan-Indian commercial cinema has also changed audience expectations. Recent blockbuster films have relied heavily on large-scale visuals, action spectacles,

and grand theatrical moments. In comparison, Drishyam is primarily a content-driven thriller built on suspense and emotional storytelling rather than visual extravaganza. While this approach remains the franchise's biggest strength, it may not generate instant viral excitement among younger audiences accustomed to high-energy promotional campaigns.

Some industry observers also feel that the mystery surrounding the third part is being maintained too carefully. While secrecy is essential for thriller films, the lack of concrete information about the storyline, cast additions, or shooting progress has limited online discussion among fans. As a result, conversations about the film have remained relatively restricted compared

to other upcoming star-driven projects.

Despite the current low-key buzz, many fans believe Drishyam 3 could still become a major event film once official promotions begin. The franchise already enjoys a loyal fan base across India, and Mohanlal's performance as Georgekutty remains iconic among thriller lovers. The emotional connection audiences share with the character continues to be one of the film's strongest advantages.

There is also curiosity regarding how the makers will continue Georgekutty's story after the dramatic events of the second film. Fans are eager to see whether the third installment will provide a final conclusion or leave room for further expansion of the franchise.

Ultimately, while the pre-release buzz may currently appear subdued, Drishyam 3 still possesses the potential to explode in popularity closer to release. With Mohanlal returning to one of his most celebrated roles and the franchise carrying a strong reputation for intelligent storytelling, the film could once again surprise audiences and emerge as a major cinematic success.



Jayashree Sinha

RISING STAR